

Mr Eldridge

# The Nation

VOL. XL.—NO. 1023.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1885.

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## The Nation.

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\*Copies of THE NATION may be procured in London of B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar Square; George Street, 30 Cornhill, E. C.; H. F. Gillig & Co., 449 Strand; and American News Reading Room, 8 Haymarket.

## Personal.

THE AMERICAN GENTLEMAN who, with his sister, met at Lucerne (Switzerland) in August, 1883, another traveling couple, and spoke sometimes of the Nation with the other gentleman, who was ill, is invited to send his address to Dr. A. R., 2 W. Wasse, Vienna, Austria.

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MASSACHUSETTS, Boston. INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY. Courses in Civil, Mechanical, and Mining Engineering, Chemistry, Architecture, etc. JAMES P. MURROE, Sec'y. FRANCIS A. WALKER, Pres.

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## Twentieth Annual Statement

OF THE

## CONNECTICUT

General Life Insurance Co.,

OF HARTFORD, CONN.

Receipts for the year 1884.....	\$241,701 65
Disbursements.....	185,824 04
Assets January 1, 1885.....	1,489,381 49
Liabilities by Mass. and Conn.	
Standard of Reserve.....	1,156,345 34
Surplus to Policy-holders by Mass.	
and Conn. Standard of Reserve...	333,036 15
Surplus by the New York Standard.	415,056 15

T. W. RUSSELL, Pres't.

F. V. HUDSON, Sec'y.

## NOTICE.

The UNION NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, in the State of Illinois, is closing up its affairs, its corporate existence having expired at close of business on the 29th day of December, 1884. All note-holders and others, creditors of said Association, are therefore hereby notified to present the notes and other claims against the Association for payment.

J. J. P. ODELL, Cashier.

Dated December 30, 1884.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY,  
WASHINGTON, December 27.

Whereas, by satisfactory evidence presented to the undersigned, it has been made to appear that "The Union National Bank of Chicago," in the City of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, has complied with all the provisions of the Revised Statutes of the United States required to be complied with before an association shall be authorized to commence the business of Banking; Now, therefore, I, Henry W. Cannon, Comptroller of the Currency, do hereby certify that The Union National Bank of Chicago, in the City of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, is authorized to commence the business of Banking, as provided in Section 5169 of the Revised Statutes of the United States.

In testimony whereof witness my hand.  
(Seal.) Seal of Office, this 27th day of December, 1884.  
(Signed,) H. W. CANNON, Comptroller of the Currency.

**NOTICE.—THE CITIZENS' NATIONAL**  
Bank of Indianapolis, Indiana, located at Indianapolis, in the State of Indiana, is closing up its affairs, its corporate existence having expired at close of business on the 11th day of November, 1884. All note-holders and others, creditors of said Association, are therefore hereby notified to present the notes and other claims against the Association for payment.

GEO. B. YANDES, President.

Dated November 11, 1884.

**NOTICE.—THE FIRST NATIONAL**  
Bank, located at Thorntown, in the State of Indiana, is closing up its affairs, its corporate existence having expired at close of business on the thirtieth (30th) day of January, 1885. All note-holders and other creditors of said Association are therefore hereby notified to present the notes and other claims against the Association for payment.

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## Thirty-seventh Annual Statement

OF THE

## PENN MUTUAL LIFE

Insurance Co. of Philadelphia.

Net Assets, January 1, 1884.....	\$8,400,379 48
Receipts during the year:	
For Premiums.....	\$1,047,215 09
For Interest, etc.....	407,958 03
	2,145,174 02
	\$10,551,553 50

## DISBURSEMENTS.

Claims by Death.....	\$497,060 19
Matured Endowments.....	41,523 00
Surrendered Policies.....	135,138 82
Cash and Note Dividends.....	303,192 55
Reinsurance.....	4,902 45
Total paid Policy-holders.....	\$1,042,423 01
Taxes and Legal Expenses.....	\$54,905 65
Salaries, Medical Fees, and Office Expenses.....	88,158 21
Commissions to Agents, Rents, etc.....	130,968 54
Agency and other expenses.....	80,553 92
Advertising, Printing, Supplies.....	17,838 55
Fire Insurance, Office Furniture, etc.....	3,475 48
	1,417,223 36

Net Assets, January 1, 1885.....	\$9,134,330 14
----------------------------------	----------------

## ASSETS.

City Loans, Railroad, and Water Bonds.....	\$4,380,821 75
Bank and other Stocks.....	2,185,053 17
Mortgages and Ground Rents.....	671,818 26
Premium Notes Secured by Policies, etc.....	590,050 01
Loans on Collaterals, etc.....	880,637 69
Home Office and Real Estate bought to secure Loans.....	216,049 26
Cash in Trust Companies and on hand.....	

Net Ledger Assets as above.....	\$9,134,330 14
Net Deferred and Unreported Premiums.....	164,560 75
Interest due and accrued, etc.....	45,101 12
Market value of Stocks, Bonds, etc., and Real Estate over cost.....	310,892 25

Gross Assets, January 1, 1885.....	\$9,663,884 26
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## LIABILITIES.

Losses reported, but not due.....	\$133,831 07
Reserve at 4 per cent. to re-insure risks.....	8,054,248 00
Surplus on Life Rate Endowments and Unreported Policies, etc.....	170,592 85
Surplus, 4 per cent. basis.....	1,395,212 34
	\$9,663,884 26

Surplus at 4½ per cent. Pennsylvania Standard (Estimated).....	\$1,812,360 34
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SAMUEL C. HUEY, President.  
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H. S. STEPHENS, Second Vice-President.  
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Surplus.....	\$90,000

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## Twenty-fifth Annual Statement

OF THE

## WASHINGTON LIFE INS. CO.

W. A. BREWER, Jr., President.

Net assets, December 31, 1883.....	\$6,587,879 08
Receipts during the year for premiums.....	\$1,434,332 34
For interest, rents, &c.....	341,001 45
	1,775,333 79
	\$8,363,212 87

Disbursements:	
Claims by death.....	\$412,620 80
Matured and discounted endowments.....	184,244 20
Surrendered policies, cash dividends and return premiums.....	549,005 37
Annuities.....	3,110 23
Total paid policy-holders.....	\$1,149,040 80
Taxes.....	13,067 60
Commuted Commissions.....	48,277 72
Profit and loss.....	10,185 36
Dividends to Stockholders.....	8,820 00
Expenses, Rent, Commission, Salaries, Postage, Advertising, Medical Examinations, etc.....	242,478 50
	1,479,365 07

Net Assets, Dec. 31, 1884.....	\$9,883,847 80
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## ASSETS.

U. S. and N. Y. city stocks.....	\$700,703 42
Bonds and mortgages, being first liens on Real Estate.....	5,400,889 74
Real estate.....	522,034 17
Cash on hand in banks and Trust Co.....	23,878 11
Loans on collaterals.....	103,982 37
Agents' balances.....	31,359 99
	\$9,883,847 80

Add excess of market value of stocks over cost.....	150,546 58
Market value of real estate in excess of cost as per Department valuation.....	7,844 40
Interest accrued.....	62,639 56
Interest due and unpaid.....	8,708 66
Deferred and unpaid premiums, less 20 per cent.....	185,202 76

GROSS ASSETS, December 31, 1884.....	\$7,304,900 84
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## LIABILITIES.

Reserve by N. Y. Standard Company's valuation.....	\$6,388,005 00
Unsettled claims.....	100,407 17
Premiums paid in advance.....	3,362 09
Unpaid dividends to stockholders.....	315 00
Unpaid expenses.....	2,708 35
Surplus as regards policyholders.....	810,172 23
	\$7,304,900 84

Policies issued in 1884.....	2,917
Amount of insurance in 1884.....	\$6,808,500
Total number of policies in force.....	15,043
Total amount insured, with additions.....	\$33,334,672

W. HAXTUN, Vice-Pres. and Sec'y.

CYRUS MUNN, Asst. Secretary.

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# The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1885.

## The Week.

THE defeat of the Nicaragua treaty on Thursday in the Senate is on all grounds greatly to be rejoiced over. Whatever there is good in the scheme is thus handed over to the next Administration, which would have to superintend its execution in any case. Moreover, the delay gives time for some public discussion of it. The committal of the country to an engagement of such an extraordinary character in "secret session" is nothing short of an abuse. Though last not least, some consideration of the obligations of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty is now possible. How a lawyer as conservative and careful as Mr. Frelinghuysen came to consider that treaty as actually dead, and worthy of no further notice, even, on our side, has not yet been explained, and is difficult to understand. We need fuller discussion of this topic also. One of the oddest features in the existing political situation is the rarity with which the people is treated to a calm discussion of questions of this kind in the speech of a leading politician. In England, the views of any man of note on such a subject would have been known long ago to every newspaper reader in the kingdom, set out in the fullest manner. Here we know what Mr. Edmunds, or Mr. Sherman, or Mr. Thurman thinks only through vague rumors in the Washington correspondents' letters.

Secretary Frelinghuysen's response to the resolution of the House of Representatives asking information regarding the attitude of the United States toward the Congo Conference at Berlin, is in substance that Minister Kasson was duly accredited as a delegate to the Conference; that Mr. Henry S. Sanford was appointed as an associate delegate, and that Mr. Henry M. Stanley was introduced by Mr. Kasson in an advisory capacity, at the request of the Conference itself; that in taking part in the Conference our Government stipulated that it was to deal "solely with the commercial interests of the Congo region and of Western Africa, and that, while taking cognizance of such establishment of limits to international territorial claims in that region as may be brought before it as matters of fact, the Conference is itself not to assume to decide such questions, the object of the Conference being simply discussion and accord, the Government of the United States in taking part therein reserving the right to decline to accept the conclusions of the Conference." The report informs us, further, that Mr. Kasson has kept strictly within the lines of commercial policy thus laid down, and has been watchful that no expression should be found of record in the agreements of the Conference which might imply that its results are to be binding upon or to be respected by any Power which may not formally accept them. Mr. Kasson's latest report shows that the course pursued by him was so exceedingly cautious that it amounted to a powerful obstruction to the proceedings of the Conference, and must, we should think and hope, furnish a

solemn warning to European Powers against inviting the United States to such conferences hereafter.

The shooting of O'Donovan Rossa is a fresh illustration of the contagiousness of sensational crime. The disgraceful acquittal of Madame Hugues the other day by a French jury, in the teeth of her own boastful confession, made in open court, called out from one of the few serious French journals, the *Paris Temps*, some weighty and suggestive comments on the effect which the publicity supplied by modern journalism is producing on the nervous system of the vain, the excitable, and the morbid of both sexes. The passion for notoriety is, in fact, being fostered by the press to the point at which, with people of certain temperaments, it is destructive of all scruple and all fear. To be the subject of everybody's talk, even for a day, in two hemispheres; to have columns of the newspapers filled with gossip about their life, and manners, and clothing, and food; to be followed in the streets by eager crowds, and to be dogged by inquisitive reporters, on account, not of great deeds, but deeds of any kind, has become to tens of thousands a dream of bliss. Unfortunately, too, the power which the new explosives and the revolver have put into the hands of the discontented or criminal in making attempts to destroy life and property, seems an easy and not very dangerous way of acquiring notoriety. There can, we take it, be no sort of question that the open discussion which is now going on in the most civilized countries of the world, of the desirability and justifiability of killing people and destroying houses, does tend to weaken or destroy that traditional respect for human life, and sense of the value of order, which are, far more than police or courts, the best defences of society. It is safe to say that no dynamiter, Nihilist, or Anarchist ever makes a speech or writes an article, and no minister or politician ever apologizes for him, without helping to sow the seeds of murderous intent in some weak head or faint heart, or without opening what seems a path to fame to the imagination of some drone, or crank, or fanatic.

In the case of O'Donovan the wonder is not that he has now received a dose of his own medicine, but that he has escaped so long. The long and dismal Irish quarrel has until the last year or two been confined to Irish soil. Irishmen have been attempting the redress of their wrongs by assassination for two centuries, but they have confined themselves till now to the assassination of Irishmen on Irish soil, and have in taking life generally aimed at the actual wrong-doers, and at the members of one small class—the landlords. The attempt to free Ireland which is now being made by outrages on Englishmen in England, by trying to bury innocent men, women, and children in the ruins of public buildings and railroad stations, will assuredly not long be allowed to go unavenged, simply because the wretches who light the fuses cannot be caught, or because American law cannot lay hands on the men who hire and de-

spatch them. The scheme is something wholly new, and unprecedented in its atrocity. It has taken the English people by surprise, and thus far has puzzled and probably will continue to puzzle them, for they are a phlegmatic, somewhat good-natured, and immensely self-satisfied people. They are a people, too, who have long lived under laws so powerful and so justly administered that the habit, one might almost say the thought, of private vengeance has died out among them. But if the passion of retaliation once takes hold of them, there will assuredly be found among them plenty of fanatics who will see to it that the O'Donovans and Fords in this country do not live here in peace and security on "emergency funds," while filling every mother in London with alarm for her children whenever they go out on a holiday. Dynamite will be met with dynamite. We have probably, in Mrs. Dudley's attempt on O'Donovan's life on Monday, only seen the beginning of the trouble.

The Grand Street dynamite explosion is likely to strengthen public sentiment in favor of legislation throwing restrictions about the manufacture and sale of explosives. There is a perceptible tendency among the more ignorant of the working people to use dynamite as a redress for grievances of all kinds. Only a few weeks ago some strikers at South Norwalk blew up a building belonging to their employers, for the apparent purpose of frightening them into paying higher wages. It is easy to see that this use of dynamite might spread to alarming proportions unless something is done to check it. In small manufacturing towns, where the police force consists of only a handful of men, the opportunity to use dynamite without fear of detection is very great, and the destruction of property in case of labor troubles might soon be enormous. In the South Norwalk case, the insurance companies at once sent word to the threatened manufacturers that their policies did not cover dynamite risks, and other companies refused to give them policies on any terms. No property owner can afford to be put into a position of this sort. The best way to meet the emergency seems to be in the enactment of some such regulations as those which are incorporated in one of the bills introduced at Albany, requiring every manufacturer and seller of explosives to keep a book in which shall be registered the name and address of every purchaser.

A most eloquent silence is maintained by all our esteemed Blaine contemporaries concerning their attitude toward the dynamite Irish leaders in the late campaign. All our efforts to get an opinion upon Patrick Ford and his Emergency Fund, as illuminated by the London explosions, are fruitless. We have stirred up the *Tribune*, *Boston Journal*, and *Philadelphia Press* in vain on the subject. In the *Cincinnati Commercial* we find some very vigorous denunciation of dynamiters in general, and O'Donovan Rossa in particular, but no allusion to Ford. Yet, at the close of

two columns of indignation, there occurs this passage:

"The people of the United States—all civilized people—must join in the prosecution of the wretches who, in the name of independence and freedom, are destroying liberty, and, under pretences of sentimental patriotism, are making barbaric war upon civilization. They must do it because they must protect themselves."

Now the "wretch" who is doing more to carry on this "barbaric war upon civilization" than all other men in America combined, is Ford, with his *Irish World*. What we want to know is if the Blaine editors, including Mr. Halsted, are going to continue to encourage him in his work as they did during the last campaign, or are they going to join all other "civilized people" in prosecuting him? There was no Blaine disciple who expressed a warmer enthusiasm for Ford in the campaign than Mr. Halsted did, and his views about him now would be very interesting. Rossa was not a Blaine man, and he did not raise the money which blew up the London buildings and injured innocent people. Ford was a Blaine man, and, while he was supporting Blaine, was raising a fund for precisely what has happened in London. We put the case thus explicitly, and once more pause for the frank opinion of any Blaine editor upon it. Abuse of Rossa will not constitute a satisfactory response.

The visit of Speaker Carlisle to the President-elect has, we presume, no other significance than as it indicates Governor Cleveland's desire to possess himself of the views of representative men in his own party who want nothing for themselves, and who can therefore be relied upon for unbiassed opinions. Mr. Carlisle is one of these, and the most eminent of all, with the possible exception of Senator Bayard. Occupying already the second place in the Government, with reasonable certainty of continuing to occupy it so long as the Democrats hold a majority of the House, Mr. Carlisle can have no ambition to enter the new Cabinet. Therefore, any advice which he may give to Mr. Cleveland will be untainted with personal considerations, and will undoubtedly carry the weight which belongs to one who worthily fills the high position of Speaker of the House of Representatives. The gravity, impartiality, and fidelity to principle which have distinguished Mr. Carlisle's Speakership are in fine contrast with the turbulence and self-seeking of the Keifer régime. Mr. Carlisle was born and nurtured in the Bourbon school, but he has grown with the country's growth, and kept pace with the best political ideas of the times. He has made some mistakes, but withal he has impressed the public with confidence in his sincerity and in his desire to be serviceable to his country.

It is noticeable that all the Democratic statesmen who visit Mr. Cleveland come away strongly impressed with his honesty of purpose and his clear common sense. It is equally noticeable that they are all able to imitate successfully his capacity for holding his tongue. This persistent refusal to disclose the private conversations held between the President-elect and his party associates is, of course, very irritating to the press, especially

to those journals which exerted all their influence to elect Mr. Blaine. There is a prudence and deliberation about this method of deciding upon questions of party policy which are not encouraging to people who are looking eagerly for factional quarrels and blunders in the new Administration. There have been many Democratic leaders at Albany during the past few months, but the only one who has gone away unhappy is "Johnny" McLean, the Cincinnati boss, who did his utmost to sell out his party to Blaine, and succeeded only in capturing the Republican Sheriff's advertising as a reward for his treachery. Every eminent Democratic leader has left Albany pleased with Mr. Cleveland and determined to do everything in his power to make his Administration successful. There is a good omen for the party in all this.

In response to our inquiry for information concerning the "many important cases" in which Andrew S. Draper, who has just been appointed a Commissioner on the *Alabama Claims*, was said to have been engaged, and for samples of his most conspicuous displays of a "judicial turn of mind," the *Albany Express* thus makes answer:

"Mr. Draper has had fair standing at the bar of Albany County for many years, has been a member of the State Legislature, and by the judgment of his associates one of the most useful members of it, has been President of the Board of Education of this city, and Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Republican State Committee. We have had no opportunity to confer with him in relation to the legal cases in which he has been employed, but do remember two of them which were considered important here; one of them was the celebrated case of Swinburne against Nolan for the Mayoralty of this city, in which he was associate counsel, and another was when he served as one of the Commissioners on the Viaduct Claims, also in this city. He has undoubtedly been employed in other important cases which we do not now remember. In any event his fellow-lawyers here will give him credit for being earnest, honest, and active."

That is about what we expected. The showing which the *Express* makes is not so impressive as to justify the belief that if Mr. Draper had not been the personal friend of the President, he would ever have been appointed to a judicial position of national importance.

The Committee appointed last December by the newspaper publishers of the West and Northwest to urge upon Congress the propriety and justice of reducing the postage on newspapers, have made a report of progress which is very encouraging. They found the members of the House Committee on Post-offices united in favor of reducing the postage from two cents a pound to one cent; and in order to facilitate the passage at this session of a bill making this reduction, the Committee said it would be necessary to have it incorporated in the regular Post-office Appropriation Bill. The sub-committee of the Appropriations Committee having the postal appropriations in charge have agreed so to incorporate it, and it will therefore be reported to the House. We trust that no member of Congress will object to the reduction. The present tax is a very onerous one, amounting to nearly two million dollars a year. It was put on in 1874, under the inspiration of certain men in public life who took this method of "getting even" with the newspapers for harsh criticisms

received. One of the leaders in the movement was Mr. Hamlin, of Maine, and he was actuated by the belief that the large metropolitan newspapers would be the heaviest sufferers. As a matter of fact it fell most heavily upon the smaller weekly and rural papers. The great dailies avoided some of the expense by employing express companies to do part of the service at cheaper rates. In truth, a uniform postage of one cent per pound would result in giving the Government all of the business, and the result would in all probability be only a slight decrease in the present revenue. The tax at present levied is unreasonable and out of keeping with the postal policy of the Government. The reduction of letter postage to two cents ought to be accompanied with a reduction in newspaper postage.

The proceedings in the Wells failures at Galveston are fresh evidence of the necessity for a national bankruptcy law. Those creditors who are on the spot have rushed in with attachments absorbing a great part of the available assets. Under existing State laws, the prevailing practice is either a race of diligence by attaching creditors, or an assignment with preferences to a favored few. Such a state of law must of necessity breed distrust in commercial transactions, and it is probable that some amount of the present business depression is due to the want of a uniform law protecting creditors of all classes. Certainly the want of such a uniform law will retard the development of trade throughout the country in the South as well as in the North and West. There is much misapprehension of the real object to be accomplished by a general bankruptcy law, and a deep-rooted impression in some portions of the country that it would be mainly for the purpose of absolving delinquents from their liabilities. In fact, the great object to be accomplished is a fair distribution of assets among creditors. The old law, with all its faults, under proper administration accomplished some good and useful purposes, and Congress has had the experience of its working as a guide in framing a new one. The repeated petitions and efforts of merchants and financial institutions to have the bill now pending passed at the present session of Congress, are abundant proof of the need for legislation on the subject, and failure to act in the matter will show direct disregard by Congressmen of the interests of their constituents.

*Bradstreet's* correspondent in the Indian Territory furnishes an interesting résumé of the "boomer" controversy. The "boom" itself is a cunningly devised scheme for making money. "The real instigators," says this writer, "are those who sell certificates of colony membership at from \$3 to \$5 each, and the pretended colony surveyors who regularly go a few days ahead of each batch of deluded immigrants, and, upon the arrival of the latter, charge and receive enormous fees for making pretended descriptions by section, township, and range of any and all tracts selected by the colonists. Over 15,000 of these certificates have doubtless been sold at the prices named, and from \$30 to \$40 each are often paid to the 'surveyors' for locating a single quarter sec-



tion. When the military appear, the 'surveyors,' warned by past experience, take to the gulches and escape, and the victimized 'boomers' are arrested and marched out of the Territory sadder and wiser men. That these are swindles of the first magnitude is known to all men of general information on Indian affairs, and that all white settlements in Oklahoma are contrary to law is conceded by every disinterested and well-informed jurist in the United States. Besides this, the matter has been exposed over and over again. Presidents have issued proclamation after proclamation, warning all persons to keep off the Oklahoma lands, and informing them that the whole military force of the nation would be used, if necessary, in carrying out these declarations. But still the craze goes on. Dupes are deluded into buying these worthless certificates of Oklahoma colonists, and, backed up by those who see in this an entering wedge for opening the whole Indian Territory, and by the restless, discontented, floating population of the frontier, start for the Oklahoma land of promise, to be ignominiously expelled by the proper authorities as all their predecessors were before them."

Mr. Vedder has introduced in the Assembly another of those sapient bills for stopping stock speculation of which so many have been produced or threatened ever since the war. This one makes it a penal offence not to deliver stocks or give the number of the certificates on the day of their sale, unless the execution of the contract is fixed for some future day. Anybody who disobeys is to expose himself to fine or imprisonment. To the mind of some legislators it apparently makes no difference in the value of a law whether it can be executed or not. In the present case, suppose a man sells stocks to another without delivery, or without giving the numbers of the certificates, and the other is, as he generally is in such cases, another speculator; who is going to put the law in force and furnish evidence of its violation, particularly when neither thinks there is any moral wrong in the transaction? And is it not most ludicrous that any legislator should think his fines of \$100 to \$500 would be more operative in preventing speculation than the terrible penalties which befall speculators by the hundred every year, in the loss of their whole property or a large part of it? There is no folly in the use of money of which men can be guilty which is so severely punished to-day, by the mere nature of things, as stock speculation. Any addition which the Vedder bill proposes to make to this penalty is very like making murderers liable to a fine of \$5, besides death on the scaffold.

North Carolina, imitating her sister State, Georgia, has begun to direct some penal legislation against the sale of obscene literature. There has been shown some opposition to the measure in the Senate of North Carolina, based upon the alleged difficulty of properly executing such laws. It was contended that an enforcement too rigid would throw Byron, Fielding, and Shakspeare out of the North Carolina market, and lead to a narrow culture. We must confess that there is great likelihood of this, when we remember that in Atlanta, Ga., immediate-

ly following the conviction of a vender of the *Police Gazette*, a raid was made upon the picture and stationery shops, and every piece of art, expressed in its own language of nudity, was required to be taken away from the public view. For some time local excitement ran high, and it was to be feared that even the warm sensuous pen-pictures sent by one of its editors to the *Constitution*, from the sea-coast in summer time, might be interdicted. The proceedings in the courts under the Georgia anti-obscene literature law gave occasion to one of the ministers of Atlanta, who is also an art-lover, to write a series of discourses showing the true relation between law and art, which, it is to be hoped, have broadened somewhat the sentiments of the iconoclasts who compelled Pitchford to destroy the photographs of antique sculpture with which he tempted the public to his bookstore. The editor of the *Raleigh Chronicle*, who is, we are compelled to judge, ignorant of all the workings of the Georgia law, thinks that the broad common sense of the people will be the safeguard against such a strict enforcement of the North Carolina Act as leads to the banishment of Byron and Shakspeare. But cases under such a law come before a court of limited jurisdiction and small dignity, provided generally with prosecuting attorneys almost as indifferent to the charms of literature as the jury—composed, it may be, and as in reality it was in Atlanta, in large part of ignorant negroes—which they address. It may be doubted whether the friends of this kind of legislation can rely upon "the broad common sense" of North Carolinians to preserve it from contempt, when we read that the Senator who most warmly favored it questioned "whether a healthier sentiment would not be produced by presenting statues of the great heroes and martyrs in the cause of truth and liberty than by nude figures of imaginary creations of artists."

Mr. John Bright has just delivered an address, doubtless paid for by the Cobden Club, urging the American farmers to buy their goods from the Lancashire and Birmingham manufacturers, because they would get them cheaper. The indecency of making such proposals to the people of a friendly nation we need not comment on. It may afford some consolation to those who are shocked by such propagandism of the Cobden Club in this country, however, to reflect that we are paying off the British by sending Henry George over to preach the confiscation of all the landed property in England. This is worse than anything the Cobden Club or its emissaries have recommended here. It is far worse, indeed, in our eyes than even trying to persuade people to buy things cheaply.

Mr. Goschen has long been known to be out of sympathy with the Liberal party in England, and, in fact, declined a seat in the Cabinet because he was not prepared to support the recent extension of the franchise. He has a dread of pure Democracy, which he makes no pretence of concealing. His lukewarmness or alienation has been considered a great misfortune, because there is no man in the Liberal party—perhaps no man in England—after Mr.

Gladstone, who has the same mastery of finance. The speech which he delivered at Edinburgh on Saturday, therefore, has been long looked for with some eagerness, as he was expected to deliver himself freely on the existing situation, and especially on the condition of affairs in the Sudan, where it begins to be "a pious opinion" among many Liberals that Mr. Gladstone is shamefully slaughtering men whom he praised last year as "brave men struggling to be free." The speech turns out, however, to be simply a disquisition on the land question, but it shows, as far as we can judge from the meagre despatch about it, that on this subject he agrees with Mr. Chamberlain as to simplifying transfers, and forbidding the species of entail called family settlement.

The African International Association has been the means of bringing on a curious lawsuit in Brussels, which revives a very ancient laugh against the doctors. It had engaged one Roger to conduct an expedition into equatorial Africa. But Mr. Stanley, who had known Roger already in that region, wrote a letter describing his physical condition when exposed to the climate there. This letter the Association submitted to a doctor at Brussels, who gave an opinion thereupon, that if Roger went back his death was certain. The Association consequently cancelled his engagement. The crafty Roger, however, saw that the doctor had, by giving an opinion without seeing him, delivered himself into the hands of his enemy. He called on him, under an assumed name, represented himself as a resident of South America, who had contracted disease there, gave as his symptoms exactly those described by Stanley in his letter, and said that he was going to Africa for the Association, but that they demanded a certificate that this disease contracted in Brazil would not unfit him for service in Africa. The doctor examined him, pronounced him perfectly fit, and pocketed twenty francs therefor. Armed with this second certificate, Roger is now pursuing the Association in the courts, and all Brussels is laughing at the poor doctor.

Apropos of doctors, the English professional journals have been telling wonderful stories about the fees of English physicians. The *Students' Journal* says Sir Andrew Clarke makes over \$75,000 a year, which the *Medical Journal* says is strictly true. Others add that Dr. Redcliffe used to make an average annual income of \$35,000 a year, and Dr. Baillie \$50,000; that Sir Astley Cooper took \$5,000 in a single fee; that some other doctor got \$10,000 for going to Pau from London; that Catharine II. of Russia paid Dr. Dimsdale \$60,000 for vaccinating her. The *Paris Temps* thinks all this English boasting very immodest and unprofessional, and intimates that no French doctor would allow such facts about his pecuniary gains to become known. It observes, however, in order to give some idea of what French doctors could reveal if they chose, that it is within its personal knowledge that Nélaton on one occasion refused \$80,000 to go to St. Petersburg to perform a very simple operation.

## SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, TO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1885, inclusive.]

## DOMESTIC.

THE United States Senate continued in executive session on Wednesday until 7 o'clock, discussing the Nicaragua treaty. Mr. Vance (Dem., N. C.) made a carefully prepared speech against the ratification of the treaty, his chief argument being that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty was still in force. He moved to postpone further consideration of the measure until after March 4. Mr. Bayard supported the motion, urging both friends and foes of the treaty to let it go over, and not seek to embarrass Mr. Cleveland's Administration. Messrs. Morgan, Edmunds, Conger, and Miller, of California, opposed the motion. When a vote was taken a majority of those present voted against postponement, but the roll-call showed that there was not a quorum present. The Senate adjourned without securing a quorum. In executive session on Tuesday the motion was defeated by 23 to 25. The Senate then voted, in Committee of the Whole, on Mr. Sherman's proposition for negotiations with Great Britain as to a modification or abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. It was lost, 27 to 28. Afterward when it came up in the Senate, it was adopted by a large majority, the friends of the treaty hoping to placate its opponents by this concession. After a few brief remarks the vote on ratification was taken, and resulted 32 in its favor and 23 against. It required a two-thirds vote, or 37, in its favor. The treaty was therefore rejected. It will come up again on a motion to reconsider.

The Senate on Friday passed a resolution making arrangements for the electoral count on February 11.

The Union Pacific Funding Bill was called up in the Senate on Monday. There is an evident desire on the part of the opponents of the measure to postpone it indefinitely; Mr. Beck and Mr. McPherson indicating such a purpose. Mr. Hoar contended that the bill was drafted solely in the interest of the Government. The Senate decided to postpone the consideration of the bill till February 4.

The River and Harbor Bill as finally reported in the House of Representatives on Wednesday appropriates \$11,243,700, exclusive of the Galveston Harbor appropriation of \$750,000. The bill contains a provision for an advisory engineer to the Mississippi River Commission at a salary of \$3,500 per annum, and James B. Eads is recommended to the President for that position. Taken in connection with the Galveston Harbor appropriation, this would make Captain Eads master of the river works from Iowa to the Gulf at a total salary of \$8,500.

In the House of Representatives on Wednesday, the conference report on the six months' Naval Appropriation Bill was agreed to. The principal point of difference between the two houses was as to the repairs of wooden ships. As finally arranged, the repairs to the wooden ships are limited to 20 per cent. of the cost of a new ship of a similar class. Mr. Hewitt (Dem., N. Y.) attempted to call up the Mexican Treaty Enabling Act, but was defeated by a large majority. The vote is not considered very hopeful for the bill. On Thursday Mr. Hewitt made a similar attempt, but failed by 105 to 144.

The House Committee on Foreign Affairs on Friday referred the resolutions recently introduced in the House, calling upon the Secretary of State for any information at the State Department relative to any connection that an American might have had with the recent explosions in London, to a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Eaton, Lamb, and Rice. In the discussion upon the reference by the full Committee, the opinion was generally concurred in that no action should be taken upon the subject by the House of Representatives.

The House Committee on Claims decided on Friday, by a vote of nine to four, to report a

bill providing for the refunding of the tax imposed by the Government on the States and Territories as a war tax, under the acts of Congress of August 5, 1861, and June 7, 1862, and releasing those States which yet owe the tax. The amount imposed on New York was \$2,603,919, on New Jersey, \$450,134, and on Connecticut, \$308,214.

President Arthur on Friday sent a message to the House of Representatives expressing the opinion that the *Alert*, of the Greely relief expedition, should now be returned to the British Government with thanks. He asks for the authority of Congress for such action. A similar message has been sent to the Senate.

James K. Jones (Dem.) has been elected United States Senator from Arkansas, after a long contest. He is now a member of the House of Representatives.

The decrease of the public debt during January was \$9,420,046.

The Court of Claims on Monday decided the long pending case of the Union Pacific Railroad Company versus the United States. Among the significant points of the decision are the following: The United States are bound to pay for the transportation of their passengers (troops, etc.) from Council Bluffs to Omaha, over the bridge and between Council Bluffs and Ogden, the same rates paid by private parties—those rates being fair and reasonable. The amount allowed by the Treasury Department for carrying the mails is fair and reasonable. The company is required to pay into the Treasury of the United States each year 5 per cent. of its net earnings under the act of 1862, and under the Thurman Act since its passage, in addition thereto, so much of the \$850,000 as, with said 5 per cent. and the whole compensation for Government transportation, will equal 25 per cent. of its net earnings. In stating the account to December 31, 1882, the Court finds *approximately* that the United States owe the company \$2,975,700, and the company owes the United States \$5,734,392. The United States therefore are entitled to judgment on their counter claims against the company of \$2,758,692.

O'Donovan Rossa, the notorious dynamite advocate, was shot in the shoulder by an English woman named Yseult Dudley at about 5 o'clock on Monday afternoon. They met in the District Telegraph Office in the Stewart Building, in this city. They went out into Chambers Street together, and the woman, stepping behind him, fired five shots at Rossa with a revolver. Only one shot took effect, entering his back just below the left shoulder blade. The wound is not dangerous. Rossa was taken to the Chambers Street Hospital, while his assailant was arrested. She was perfectly cool, and said that she shot the man "because he was O'Donovan Rossa," and because he is the agent of the dynamiters. The woman is a hospital nurse, and has been in this country about five months. She is twenty-five years old, good-looking, and neatly dressed. On Tuesday she was arraigned in court and remanded to await the result of Rossa's wound. The Irish claim that she is an agent of the British Government. There was great rejoicing in London over the shooting. It appears that before leaving England Mrs. Dudley attempted to commit suicide.

A bill was offered in the Connecticut Senate on Wednesday, which requires yearly licenses from the County Commissioners for making, selling, buying, or exchanging dynamite explosives. Severe penalties are attached for any violations of the law. Any one selling without a license will be subject to a fine of \$500 or imprisonment for from one to three years. Any person having dynamite in his possession unable to prove his purchase will be subject to the same penalty. Any person who with malicious intent causes loss of life or injury to person or property by the use of dynamite, will be subject to a fine of \$100 or more, or imprisonment for one year or more.

A more stringent dynamite bill than the one reported last week was introduced in the Assembly at Albany on Wednesday.

The annual report of the Civil-Service Commissioners of New York State shows that the number of persons subject to the civil-service regulations is as follows: In the service of the State 3,600, in New York city 5,540, in Brooklyn 1,418, in other cities, estimated, 1,765; total, 12,323. The cities that have failed to comply with the statute of last year are Hudson, Watertown, Oswego, Rome, Elmira, Schenectady, Newburgh, and Lockport. The Commissioners report a gratifying abatement of the practice of political assessments. They express confidence that the work of organizing the State civil-service reform system has reached a point where its usefulness can be tested, and conclude by saying: "It is only justice to the retiring Governor to say that the successful establishment of reformed civil-service methods in the State of New York during his administration, and the acceptance of the reform by the public, are largely due to his intelligent interest in the subject, his fidelity to its principles, and his prompt and courageous action through all the stages of its progress."

The three days' enrolment of Republican voters in this city, ending on Friday night, foots up about 18,000 names, or only about one-fifth of the number of Republicans who voted the Blaine and Logan ticket in November.

The Illinois Legislative deadlock was broken on Thursday by the election of Elijah M. Haines (Dem.) Speaker by a majority of 2. The Democrats believe that this is an indication that they can elect a successor to Senator Logan.

Twenty persons were seriously injured by the wreck of an express train on the Jersey Central Road, near Greenville, N. J., on Friday.

Private information received by the Surgeon-General of the Army from Panama is to the effect that the death-rate there from yellow fever is terrible, and that the facts have been concealed.

Gen. James Chestnut, who was United States Senator from South Carolina in 1860, when his State seceded from the Union, died on Sunday, in Camden, S. C., at the age of seventy. He was a member of the Confederate Congress. General Chestnut was a graduate of Princeton.

## FOREIGN.

The long suspense and anxiety about the fate of General Stewart and his forces were brought to an end on Wednesday, when a despatch was received from General Wolseley by the War Office in London announcing that the British forces were strongly intrenched not far from Metemneh, and that General Stewart was in communication with General Gordon. The official despatches indicated that the march from Abu-Klea Wells, where a battle was fought on January 17th, had been a perilous one. Almost every foot of the way was contested by the Arab foe. For two days there was a succession of light attacks easily repulsed by the British. Finally on Monday, January 19th, the enemy appeared in great force in front of the British army, when they were within three miles of the Nile. A short and fierce battle was fought, during which General Stewart was wounded. Sir Charles Wilson then assumed command. Works were hastily constructed under the constant fire of the enemy's rifles. The wounded men and the baggage train were left under guard behind their quickly-built earthworks, while the rest of the force advanced in the face of the hostile fire to a gravel ridge some distance in front. Here a large force of the rebels had established themselves in a strong position. The British troops as usual were arranged in the form of a square. The rebel hosts to the number of 7,000, led by five Emirs, charged upon them furiously. Nothing could exceed the coolness of the Englishmen under these circumstances. Their fire was so rapid and effective that not an Arab



came within thirty yards of the square. They were shot down by hundreds, and were soon repulsed; their total loss in killed and wounded being 1,800. The British loss was twenty killed and sixty wounded. Among the killed were Lord St. Vincent, Mr. Cameron, correspondent of the *London Daily Standard*, and Mr. Herbert, correspondent of the *Morning Post*.

General Stewart's wound is not fatal, but will disable him for the campaign. General Wolseley in his despatches characterized General Stewart as the "ablest soldier and most dashing commander he ever knew," and recommended him to the Queen's most favorable consideration. Queen Victoria immediately sent a despatch to General Stewart expressing her personal sympathy, thanking him for his bravery, and promoting him to the rank of Major-General.

The news of the victory was accompanied by the gratifying report that General Gordon was safe at Khartum, and had expressed the opinion that he could maintain his position for several years.

After the retreat of the Arabs the British made the march to the Nile under a continuous fire from the Arabs in ambush, reaching the river at sunset, and encamping for the night. Early the next morning, January 20, scouting parties were sent out to reconnoitre, and they destroyed some empty villages, the inhabitants of which had fled to Metemneh. The British force then advanced through the villages around Metemneh, and on Wednesday, January 21, a reconnoissance of that place was made. This revealed the fact that Metemneh is fairly well fortified, and that the works are furnished with loopholes. Shots were exchanged, but the rebels kept out of sight. Metemneh is occupied at present by 12,000 men. Five of General Gordon's steamers, under the command of Nusri Pasha, with 500 soldiers and five guns, arrived at Gubat, where the English had intrenched, on this day, and all the troops and guns were landed and turned on Metemneh, without, however, producing any apparent effect on the rebels.

On Thursday a reconnoissance was made down the river to Shendy with four steamers which had arrived from Khartum. It was found that at Shendy, which is on the opposite side of the Nile, a short distance north of Metemneh, there is one small gun, and the town is garrisoned by a small force. General Wilson bombarded Shendy for two hours, and almost completely destroyed the town, but the occupants, of whom there were few, appeared to be unwilling to surrender. The steamers afterward returned to Gubat, where a number of forts have been erected. The British position at that place is considered impregnable. Sir Charles Wilson started on board a steamer to Khartum for a personal conference with General Gordon.

Some of the wounded rebels who were taken prisoners declared that the Frenchman, Ollivier Pain, is in command at Metemneh.

Advices received at Hamdabat at 8 o'clock on Wednesday night, concerning the expedition which left Korti for Berber on January 26th, under General Earle, stated that the Black Watch and Staffordshire Regiments arrived at the Kabd-el-abok cataract on that day. Before reaching the cataract the cavalry scouts, who were two miles in advance, exchanged fire with some hostile natives. The Arabs made the attack, but were soon driven back by the cavalry and the camel corps when these came up. Soon after this these two corps captured the village of Warag. The Arabs retreated in the direction of Birti. General Earle, after the capture of Warag, started for Abu-Hamed. He has 2,500 men.

General Earle occupied Birti on Monday, and the rebels have deserted their intrenchments. Two uncles of Suleiman, the murderer of Colonel Stewart, submitted to General Earle. Hussein Pasha, and a stoker on Colonel Stewart's steamer when it was wrecked and

the party massacred, escaped from Birti and reached Earle's camp before the occupation of that place. The route is now clear to Abu-Hamed.

The British on Sunday made a reconnoissance in force from Suakim with two guns. They shelled the enemy's camp at Hasheen. The rebels, who hold a strong position, were very courageous. The British subsequently returned to Suakim. It is believed the rebels lost heavily.

James Gilbert Cunningham, now under arrest in London for complicity in the late dynamite explosions, was known, it is said, in St. Louis by the name of Michael J. Byrne. He came to America to escape punishment for the murder of an Irish landlord, in which he was implicated, so he claims. Before going to St. Louis he lived in Chicago, where he went by the name of James Gilbert and James Cunningham. He had also spent some time in New York and Philadelphia. He lived for more than a year in New York city, and received instruction in the making and selling of infernal machines from Rossa and the Russian professor, Mezzerooff. Cunningham was one of a coterie of Irishmen who have their homes in the northwestern part of St. Louis, and there planned outrages against Great Britain. One of his plans was the destruction of all the public buildings in London by 100 trained dynamiters.

The examination of Cunningham was begun in the Bow Street Police Court, London, on Monday morning. Mr. Poland, the Solicitor of the Treasury, appeared for the prosecution. In opening the case Mr. Poland said that the Government intended to prove that the prisoner was an active agent in the conspiracy which culminated in the horrible outrage at the Tower of London. Mr. Poland then narrated the suspicious facts in regard to the prisoner's movements at Liverpool and at London from the time of his arrival at Liverpool from America up to the date of his arrest at the Tower, a few minutes after the explosion occurred; his travelling under the assumed names of Gilbert and Dalton, and many suspicious circumstances connected with his stay in both the above cities. In conclusion, Mr. Poland asked that Cunningham be arraigned under the Explosives Act, on the charge of conspiracy, and said that he might possibly, at a later day, request that the charge be changed to one of high treason, so that the penalty of the latter crime could be meted out to him, as the dynamite outrages could be construed as acts of war of a rebellious people. This announcement made a commotion, as it indicated that the Government believed Cunningham to be a very important arrest. At the request of the prosecution Cunningham was remanded for a week.

Queen Victoria has conferred upon Constable Cole, who was so severely injured in the discharge of his duty at the time of the explosion at Westminster Hall, the order of the Albert Medal.

O'Leary, the Fenian, lectured to 4,000 persons at Manchester, England, on Sunday. He condemned dynamite outrages, but many in the audience strongly objected to his sentiments. Three cheers were given for O'Donovan Rossa.

The Paris correspondent of the *London Times* telegraphed on Friday an important despatch concerning the object of the coming meeting of Irish revolutionists in Paris. He alludes to the meeting as a congress of dynamite delegates, and says that the main purpose of their assembling in Paris is to endeavor to arrange for an affiliation with the regular Fenian organization which has its headquarters at present in the French capital, where it is still led by ex-Head-Centre Stephens. The main proposition to be made to the Fenians as the price of the union is, that the dynamiters will abandon the policy of attacks upon private property and public buildings, if the Fenians will join them in a

dynamite war to be carried on for the destruction of the British navy.

A great Liberal meeting was held at the Town Hall in Birmingham, England, on Thursday. A speech was made by Mr. John Bright, in which he said that the question of disestablishment would not be an opportune one in the present century. The speaker ridiculed the idea of a colonial confederation without a system of free trade, and asserted that the next Parliament would probably grant free trade in land, meaning a removal of the hindrances to land transfers. Mr. Bright, in referring to the American tariff, said that farmers in the United States are not permitted to exchange their produce with artisans of Birmingham or weavers of Lancashire, but are compelled to exchange with protected manufacturers in their own country, who in some cases do not give half of what the farmers could get from the Lancashire or Birmingham manufacturers. Mr. Bright said he had no wish to reproach the Americans, who some day, he believed, would discover the right course.

The Rev. Stephen Gladstone, rector of Hawarden, and son of the Prime Minister, was married in Liverpool on Thursday to Miss Mary Wilson, daughter of Dr. Wilson, a rich retired physician.

Mr. Frank Mantell Adams, the London barrister who recently married Miss Mary Coleridge despite the strenuous opposition of her relatives, has begun an action for libel against his father-in-law, Lord Coleridge, Chief Justice of England.

Lord O'Hagan, member of the House of Lords and formerly Lord High Chancellor of Ireland, is dead at the age of seventy-four.

The Powers have come to a complete understanding on the Egyptian financial question. The basis of settlement is England's reply to the French counter-proposals.

The French man-of-war *Triomphant*, which had been lying at Hong Kong for some time, was not allowed to refit by the British authorities, and on Wednesday sailed away for Saigon, the nearest French port, with only enough coal and provisions to enable her to reach that place. The French are indignant at this strict enforcement of the neutrality laws.

The French are carrying on vigorous naval warfare at Amoy. They are busy destroying and sinking Chinese junks and making prisoners of the crews. The latter are transported to Kefung and there placed in chains.

The French forces on January 25 carried the Chinese works commanding the Kelung mines, after a severe but brief contest, and the loss of nine killed and fifty-three wounded.

M. Dupuy de Lôme, the eminent French engineer, is dead at the age of sixty-eight. He built the first swift French steamer in 1852, transformed sailing vessels into steamers by enlarging them, and conceived the idea of protecting men of war with iron armor. In 1877 he was elected a life Senator and took his seat in the Bonapartist group.

The Committee of the German Reichstag to which the Steamship Subsidy Bill was referred has finally rejected the whole measure by a vote of 14 to 7, on the ground that it lacked sufficient scope. The majority consisted of Conservatives, National Liberals, and New German Liberals.

The Governor-General of Canada, in his speech from the throne on the opening of the Dominion Parliament on Wednesday, referred to a bill the Government will introduce, placing all mutual and benefit life-insurance associations under Government inspection, and requiring all foreign associations of that character to deposit \$50,000 with the Finance Minister for the protection of policy-holders. The Franchise Bill, which was introduced last year, is again promised.

THE NEXT ADMINISTRATION AND THE  
SILVER BILL.

THE recent silver convention at Denver, Colorado, was undoubtedly called and held for the purpose of checking the current of opinion, now running pretty strongly in the Democratic party, against the further coinage of silver dollars. The change was first indicated by the introduction of Judge Buckner's bill to suspend the coinage pending a new international conference, to which Mr. Warner, of Ohio, another pronounced silver man, gave his support. Following the presentation of this bill there came from Albany a rumor, pretty well authenticated, that the President-elect held the opinion decidedly that the stock of silver dollars on hand was ample for all purposes, and that any further supply would be considered an embarrassment to his Administration. Above all it was seen that the Democratic party, in power and responsible for the public finances, would be compelled to look at the silver question from a new standpoint. Making trouble for business interests under Mr. Cleveland's Administration would be attended with political risks much more serious than any that have been incurred hitherto. Moreover, the evils resulting from the silver coinage are cumulative in their nature. They grow apace. They multiply at the rate of \$2,000,000 per month. They cannot be staved off much longer unless the arbitrary coinage is stopped. A monetary crisis coming in Mr. Cleveland's term would be charged up against the Democratic party, and retaliation at the polls would be the consequence. No where would the blow fall more heavily than in the State of New York, to which State, and especially to the mercantile classes thereof, Mr. Cleveland chiefly owes his election. The great business men's parade in this city on the afternoon of November 2 showed where the balance of power in New York lay, and how it would be used on the Tuesday following. The tremendous column that moved up Broadway and past Madison Square was composed of men who know on which side their bread is buttered. They have a perfectly clear conception that the Silver Bill means mischief to them and to all commercial interests. They look to Governor Cleveland and to the wiser elements of the party which he represents to save them from an impending danger, and we believe they will not look in vain.

The silverites of the Denver Convention addressed themselves to two individuals by name. One of these was Mr. Bland, of Missouri, and the other was Governor Cleveland himself. The former they flattered by designating the two-millions-per-month law as "the Bland Act," whereas it is not a Bland act at all, but an entirely different thing, drawn up by Senator Allison, of Iowa, and adopted as a substitute for Mr. Bland's measure against Mr. Bland's protest. Perhaps the Denver people apprehended that Mr. Bland himself needed to be stiffened up, and adapted their phrases to that end, making him the public champion of their cause by conferring upon him an honor which he never claimed. However that may be, their appeal to Governor Cleveland and to the Democratic party is not entitled to any force or value upon mere political

grounds, since they gave all their electoral votes by largely increased majorities to Mr. Cleveland's opponent. The Democratic party owes nothing to Colorado, Nevada, or California. The question which the party has to consider is thus divested of any political encumbrances. There is nothing to lose in the silver-producing States; there is much to gain everywhere else.

It is commonly supposed that the South is ardently attached to the dollar of the fathers upon sentimental grounds, since her representatives in Congress have generally supported the Silver Act, and opposed all measures looking to a suspension of the coinage. The South has no other interest in the question than the common interest. She does not produce any silver. Her people are taxed for the purchase of silver bullion in the same proportion as the Northern people. She could not escape her share of the evils of a monetary crisis. She is bearing to-day her share of the suffering which proceeds from a want of confidence in the future. This want of confidence has more than one source, but not the least of the underlying causes of the present depression is the feeling, shared by capitalists at home and abroad, that there is no certainty what will be the standard of value a year hence. If that standard is to be something inferior to the present standard, if a dollar invested now is to be repaid with 85 cents at some future time, the investment will not be made. If the Southern people do not see this now, it is because their representative men have taken no pains to make them see it, but have simply drifted along with what appeared to be the current of popular prejudice. It is time for them to take a higher stand, and to become leaders instead of followers of public opinion. Of one thing they may be sure: if it shall appear to the Southern constituencies that the continued coinage of silver is a menace and a danger to the incoming Administration, that it will weaken Governor Cleveland in the places where it is necessary that he should remain strong, and eventually overthrow the party which elected him, the sentimental considerations which now sustain the Silver Act in the South will speedily give way to the more practical one of retaining the power won after the hard struggle of last November.

We have no information regarding Governor Cleveland's personal opinions upon these questions, but we assume that he does not desire to be vexed with a monetary crisis in the first six months of his term. The Administration of Martin Van Buren, entering office with the fairest prospects of success, was smitten by such a crisis at the beginning of its career, and was swept away as by an avalanche at the end of four years. It had committed no political offences, or none that were considered such at the time. It had dealt with the monetary crisis wisely and prudently. It was simply engulfed in the pecuniary distress of the people. The lesson ought now to be heeded. By stopping the silver coinage a chief obstacle to the return of confidence will be got out of the way, and the political situation will be correspondingly brightened. If this dark cloud is now removed from the financial horizon, the relief which it will extend to all business interests will be set down to the credit of Governor

Cleveland's Administration, and it will be only second in importance as a financial achievement to the resumption of specie payments in 1879.

SOME TRUTH ABOUT CANALS.

Now that the Nicaragua Canal treaty is defeated, it will well repay those who consider a canal across the Isthmus of vital importance to the United States to think a little about interoceanic canals with seriousness and sobriety. Most of the pamphlets which have been written, and most of the speeches which have been made, about the Nicaragua Canal have so much passion in them of one sort and another that even their facts and figures can hardly be depended on, much less their conclusions as to its political and commercial importance. There is to be a little breathing space now, which ought to be improved by taking a calm and rational view of canals in general.

In the first place, the notion that there is some peculiar or mystic quality about a canal, above any other piece of water, which makes it a point of honor that it should be "owned" by the nation to which it is most likely to be useful, is a quaint delusion. If a waterway across the Isthmus had been made by nature, not one hundred feet, but five miles wide, and was called a strait instead of a canal, nobody would say that it was necessary to the national security and greatness that the United States should own it—that is, should hold the land on both shores in fee simple. We should, on the contrary, confine ourselves to rejoicing that Providence had provided mankind with such a fine channel between the two great oceans. We should not mourn because the United States Government or an American company had not had the job of digging it, and that it had not cost us \$200,000,000. We should confine ourselves, in our concern about it, rigidly to the task of seeing that it was declared neutral ground, and we should perform this in the usual way, by trying to obtain a declaration of its neutrality from a congress of the great maritime Powers. This would prevent any fighting within its limits, or within a marine league of its mouth; or, in other words, would secure by peaceful pledge what it would take a larger navy than any two Powers now have to gain by force.

Why people think that narrow water communication between two oceans calls for different treatment from a wide water way; why they think we must "own" or control a canal, but need not own a strait or channel; why they think that it would be desirable to have a guarantee of neutrality from the maritime Powers for the whole Pacific Ocean, but that there would be something humiliating in having it for a passage only a hundred feet wide, it would be hard to explain in any other way than by ascribing it to the natural pugnacity of man. Even the most peaceful nation—even one as little prepared to fight either by land or sea, and as little fond of war as the American nation—seems still to set great store by any possession or claim which is likely to offend or provoke somebody, and thus lead to a fight, or show that it is not afraid to fight. There is no other apparent reason for wishing to charge ourselves with



the duty of keeping a canal open any more than of keeping a strait or channel open. On any other ground, it is as absurd to refuse to allow any other Power to guarantee its neutrality as it would be for a man who had built a fine house to refuse the protection of the law of the land for it, and insist on securing its safety through his own armed retainers. Such notions carry one back to the Middle Ages, when both nations and great men were loath to owe either peace or security to anything but their own weapons.

In the second place, it is to be observed that if our experience of interoceanic canals has taught us anything, it is that in default of a general declaration of neutrality such a canal is certain to be "owned" and controlled not by the Power which constructs it, or which charters the company that constructs it, but by the Power which makes most use of it, and has the largest navy to protect it. The Suez Canal is so complete and telling an illustration of this that the references made to it in the late discussion, as proof that the United States should own or control the canal across the Isthmus of Panama, fill one with wonder. The Suez Canal was constructed by a French company chartered by the French Government, with capital raised almost wholly in France. The scheme encountered from first to last the bitter opposition of the British Government, which prevented the promoters from getting any money for it in England. Lord Palmerston declared that its construction was impossible, or, if not impossible, useless. Now mark what followed—first in peace and then in war. The canal was opened in 1869, and from the very first the business came almost wholly from British ships. In 1882, the last year of which we have any record at hand, 2,565 British vessels passed through the canal, and only 165 French. The British tonnage, too, was 5,795,584, against 405,846 French, or fourteen times as much as the French. The ships of all other nations in that year numbered only 454; their tonnage was only 806,132.

Now as to war. When the Russo-Turkish conflict broke out in 1877, one of the first things the British Ministry of that day did was to send a despatch to the Russian Government declaring their intention to abstain from interference as long as the sphere of hostilities was not so extended as to involve or threaten the security of the Suez Canal. This, they announced, they would under no circumstances permit. The Russian answer was quite reassuring, and was addressed not to France, which had built and owned the canal, but to England, which had not put a cent into its construction. Moreover, France, far from taking umbrage at this, or thinking it foul scorn that another Power should protect the canal, acquiesced in it as the most natural thing in the world. Again, when the expedition against Egypt was sent out, in 1882, under Sir Garnet Wolseley, he without the smallest hesitation made the canal his base of operations, filled it with British war ships, stopped the traffic as long as suited his convenience, and, when M. de Lesseps remonstrated, laughed at him. Not one Power in Europe said a word by way of protest.

The reason why these pretensions of Great Britain to control the canal without owning it

have been acquiesced in so quietly is the very simple one, that any interoceanic waterway inevitably falls into the hands of the Power whose maritime force enables it to hold the sea at each entrance. Such a canal, it must be remembered, though some people seem to forget it, is not particularly useful for internal navigation. It is valuable only as a mode of getting from ocean to ocean. The power of closing it is therefore worth nothing, as it is the mere power of destruction, which the feeblest can use by sinking a shipload of stones. Possession of a canal which we can only prove by stopping it up, is very like the possession of a locomotive without a boiler, or a watch that will not go, or a horse with a broken leg. True possession means the power of keeping egress and ingress free at both ends. This belongs, and must always belong, in default of neutrality, to the Power which can station at each end a fleet large enough to drive all enemies away.

Now, if we apply all these patent truths to the Nicaragua Canal, we shall reach results which must provoke a smile. In talking of the advantages of such a canal to us as a means of communication with the Pacific in time of war, no mention has been made of any increase in our navy, or of its strength in comparison with that of any of the great European Powers, or even of Chili. To the naval force of every one of these it is so far inferior that comparison is useless. The only additions to our navy now talked of are fast sailing cruisers to cut up the enemy's commerce, not heavily armed and armored ships to stand guard off the canal, and drive intruders away. The probability of war with England is one of the strongest arguments in favor of our not making and owning the canal. Let us suppose that it has broken out, and we begin sending troops and ships to the Pacific Coast, through the canal, as per programme. When they arrive off Greytown, in wooden transports, convoyed by big wooden frigates, they will find a squadron of British ironclads, which will probably, from motives of humanity, not sink them, but warn them off. Astonished at this, the American Commodore will go on board the British flag-ship to know what it means. "It means war," the British Admiral will answer. "You cannot enter the canal. I have closed it." "But the canal is ours," the American will say. "It was built with our money and under treaty with Nicaragua; we have a two-thirds interest in it, and it was intended to afford a passage for our troops to the Pacific Coast at just such a juncture as this." "Very sorry," the British commander would reply, "but I have strict orders to prevent any one entering it just at present." And then there would probably be a hearty laugh, in which the American would join, over some brandy and soda in the cabin. If Chili were to take a hand in the fray, a similar comedy might be enacted at the same time at the Pacific end.

#### THE CIVIL SERVICE AND THE COMMON SCHOOLS.

THERE were in the common schools of this State in 1883 1,041,089 scholars; in the normal schools 6,270. There were, too, in the com-

mon schools in all 6,723 men teachers and 24,847 women. On its educational machinery the State spends over \$12,000,000 annually. It would be difficult for a civilized community to give stronger proof of the importance it attaches to knowledge even in its elementary stage, as acquired in what is called a plain English or common-school education. The political importance of such an education has for a century been one of the common-places of political oratory. The comparison of the sums spent in popular education by the Northern States with those spent by the Southern States, and even by the most enlightened countries of Europe, was before the war a favorite illustration of the superiority of the free States in civilization. Moreover, in this matter, even the Fourth of July orators hardly ever were guilty of exaggeration. The proportion of the public revenue spent in teaching children to read and write, the pains taken to spread knowledge among the poor, and to honor and reward those who acquire it, are among the highest tests of civilization.

It seems to flow naturally from all this that the State should encourage and stimulate popular education by using places in the public service to reward it. In Germany, where great value—some think inordinate value—has long been attached to the higher education, all but the lowest places in the civil service are reserved inexorably for graduates of the universities or gymnasia. In England, in 1870, the establishment of common schools, supported by general taxation, was accompanied by the throwing open of the civil and military service to competitive examination, thus giving the sons of the poorest and humblest men in the country a fair chance of filling places in the Government service, which had previously been reserved for the younger sons of the gentry with such rigor that John Bright once called that service "a vast system of outdoor relief for the British aristocracy." Indeed, it was said that "in England the opening of the civil and military service, in its influence upon the national education, was equivalent to a hundred thousand scholarships and exhibitions of the most valuable kind."

The late change in the mode of admission to our own civil service, both Federal and State, is working in the same happy direction by heightening the value, especially among the poor and friendless, of common-school education. "Influence" has, during the last fifty years, been even more necessary to an American who wished to get a place under the Government and keep it, than it used to be to an Englishman, because the tenure in England, except during one brief period in the last century, has been permanent, while here it was most precarious. Consequently "civil-service reform" is one more triumph of real Democracy. The State Civil-Service Commission truly says in its second report:

"Our civil-service reformers have noted with pride and interest the statistics which have identified the competitive system, not, as was rashly predicted, with the higher collegiate education, which was confined to the few; but with the common schools, whose advantages were intended for the many. Governor Cleveland gave a seasonable reminder of the reciprocity of the two systems when he said, in his last annual message to the Legislature, that 'the children of our citizens are educated and trained in schools maintained at the common expense,

and the people as a whole have a right to demand the selection for the public service of those whose natural aptitudes have been improved by the educational facilities furnished by the State."

"The pride and affection with which the people of the State justly regard their common-school system must be enhanced when they remember that the common school opens the way to the knowledge, the character, and the practical experience which will give to its pupils an equal chance to compete for employment in the public service, and will thus contribute to the excellence of the service, the comfort and interest of the people, and the dignity of the State."

Of persons examined under the Civil-Service Acts in this State, 72 per cent. were educated in the common schools only. Of those who have got places through competitive examination in the Federal service, 65 per cent. were educated in the common schools only. In fact, here as well as in England, the new laws operate to convert many thousand places in the public service into scholarships for the reward of diligent and capable pupils of the common schools of the State.

What is most singular about the history of this movement in the United States is not so much that it should have been opposed by the men who make their living out of politics, or who owed all their political influence to their success in office-jobbing, but that it should have been met, and should still be met, by the fierce hostility and ridicule of the editors of popular newspapers. Some of these have fought it, and still fight it, with arguments and illustrations which rest on the assumption that ignorance, not knowledge, is the basis of our institutions; that it is a disgraceful and absurd thing to give an American office to a man who knows how to read and write rather than to one who does not know how, or to a man who can speak or write his mother tongue correctly, in preference to one who cannot, or to a man who knows something of the history and geography of his country in preference to one who knows nothing at all. In fact, no Southern slaveholder denouncing "free society" and "free schools" before the war, no English Tory, preaching, as they all used to preach before 1832, the mischief done by education among people who had nothing to do with the laws but obey them, ever fought the battle of ignorance against knowledge with more fierceness than some of our own newspapers have of late done here, or with half as much devilish ingenuity in the way of falsehood, perversion, and misrepresentation.

#### THE COSTUMES OF THE "COMÉDIE HUMAINE."

To the happy law of nature by which force of imagination and delicacy of taste are generally bestowed in equal measure on great artists, Balzac—poor Balzac, as from this point of view we are tempted to call him—is a tremendous exception. With all his astounding dramatic power, there never was a more unpoetic mind, so far as "poetic" is synonymous with elevation and refinement; and it is a perpetual surprise that his immense range of observation can have been obtained from a standpoint so little lofty as his, and, indeed, chiefly by moving about among only material objects. He never looks at things as if above them: he is always on their level or even looking up to them. When he sees the stars it is because he is working in a mine. This lack of poetic quality, and also his lack of humor, cause

his conspicuous defects of taste. And while it cannot be said that the points of resemblance between Balzac and Swift are numerous, yet in this they are alike—that their common extraordinary want of fineness, their ignorance of the more exquisite emotions, impair as greatly the enduring strength of their work, its permanent weight, as they do its immediate charm. A wide difference, however, between them exists in the fact that the style of Swift in his great moments does not suffer from this deficiency, while Balzac—"poor Balzac!" once more—in his most important, his most effective, his most characteristic, his most immortal passages, is still for ever stumbling into such clumsinesses as only genius can be guilty of.

And deeper even than manner, his thought, like Swift again, has frequently a terrible inelegance, a quite appalling tastelessness. But Swift's sins in this direction, while more odious in their muddiness than Balzac's, are yet in some degree associated with the quality of humor, which is essentially a cleansing power and of clarifying effect. In Balzac, as we just now remarked, humor was non-existent; he was totally deprived of its assistance. The "Comédie Humaine" has scarcely more of "comedy" in it than the 'Divina Commedia.' It is a presentation of the tragedies of the modern world not less than the poem is a presentation of those of the mediæval world. Balzac has been compared to Dickens; but the divergence of their minds as regards drollery is immense. Who ever, we will not say laughed, but even smiled, in reading Balzac? And how rapidly we turn the pages when we find ourselves immersed in one of his humorous (!) conversations. Of humorous scenes there is not one, we will assert, to be found in his volumes (barring the unmentionable 'Contes Drolatiques'), except such as arise from mistakes and mortifications in "society," from falls on the ice of "the world." And if in these scenes he be compared with Thackeray, the failure which comes from want of subtlety of conception and fineness of touch is apparent at once. We may also derive a salutary lesson from placing him by the side of Goldsmith.

But while declaring that no one ever smiled over Balzac's pages, we must none the less acknowledge that our immediate purpose is to excite the smiles of the reader with a few quotations from him illustrative of his ludicrous deficiencies in artistic perception and intelligence. It would be impossible by quotation to point out Balzac's want of taste in the delineation of character, to show the absurdities of the lovely, impassioned, broken-hearted ladies who, disregarding the laws of man, and ignorant of the laws of God, arrange themselves in the most fascinating attitudes in their brilliant salons or their dim boudoirs, and lift their eyes to heaven, or "to the cornice, . . . the kindest, most acquiescent, most gracious confidant women can find at those moments when they dare not look at their interlocutor." To Balzac "the cornice of a boudoir is an institution." But if Balzac's ladies are beyond the reach of quotation, their costumes may be detached from them, and these offer *en petit* delicious expressions of his taste. They give evidence, too, not merely of his personal taste, but of the overpowering fact that our century is not a time of taste in dress, that "great" dress has long been unknown to the world. In the few years that have made Balzac's day remote from us, Time has touched with a ridiculous air its "fashions," and given to Balzac's descriptions of them that comicality and caricature which belongs to the illustrations in antiquated, silk-bound "keepsakes."

He himself suggests this comparison, for he describes one of his heroines as being "slim and delicate as one of those sirens invented by Eng-

lish designers for their 'books of beauty.'" She is Modeste Mignon, a "blonde céleste" of twenty years, with hair the color of pale gold, as light in quality as marabou-feathers, and curling in long ringlets, and whose figure had the elegance of a young poplar waving in the wind. The evening she is first introduced to us she is attired in "a pearl-gray dress trimmed with cherry-colored gimp, with a long waist modestly outlining her bust, and a chemisette covering her still somewhat thin shoulders, so as to show only the first curves where the throat joins the shoulders." That may pass, perhaps, under the author's previous invocation of the name of Maddalena Doni, which can "carry" the half-high chemisette, though scarcely the cherry-colored "passementerie." But a few months later we have poor Modeste appearing on horseback in "a delicious bottle-green kerseymere riding habit, on her head a little hat with a green veil, on her hands doeskin gloves, and velvet boots on her feet, about which fluttered the lace trimming of her"—*caleçon*! Imagine Di Vernon riding in lace-trimmed *caleçon*! We must add that Modeste carried, on this occasion, a riding-whip costing seven thousand francs, the handle being a fox-hunt wrought in gold, and "finished" by a ruby of such price that it swallowed up all the "savings" of the devoted lover from whom it was an anonymous and unrecognized gift.

As a balance to the lace-trimmed *caleçon*, we are elsewhere told that a "femme comme il faut," when in street dress, does *not* wear "pantalons" "with embroidered ruffles puffed round her ankles," nor open-work stockings; but "you observe on her feet either cloth slippers with buskin fastenings (*à cothurnes*) crossed over an excessively fine cotton stocking or over a plain gray silk stocking, or else boots of the most exquisite simplicity." Her dress, we are assured, is "almost always" (!) in the fashion of "a long coat fastened with knots, and charmingly edged by a cord or an imperceptible thread." Here follows a marvellous description of the manner in which she envelopes herself in the shawl which she wears over this "long coat"—an arrangement which makes it seem a little unreasonable to sneer at the "bourgeoise" who "in winter wears a boa over a fur coat, and in summer a scarf over a shawl." These, however, it appears, are "pleonasms of toilette"; a shawl over a long coat is just perfection. But it is the bonnet which is perhaps the most interesting point: "it is of a remarkable simplicity, and has *fresh ribands*!" "Perhaps it has flowers, but the most able of these women wear only bows. Feathers need a carriage, flowers attract too much attention." This "able" woman "is always accompanied either by two very distinguished-looking men, of whom at least one is *décoré*, or by a servant in undress livery who follows her at ten paces distance." The unfortunate "bourgeoise," on the other hand, who has "to gather up her dress to cross a gutter," is accompanied by a child for whose sake "she is obliged to be upon the watch about the carriages; she is a mother in public, and talks with her daughter; she has money in her hand-bag, and open-work stockings on her feet." And we cannot but fear that she never wears "souliers à cothurnes."

But it is in the creation of his evening dresses that Balzac is most triumphant, and he did his utmost for Madame Rabourdin. On a certain Tuesday in 182-, about ten o'clock in the evening, she went forth to conquest in "a delicious mourning toilette. Her hair was dressed with bunches of grapes in jet of the most beautiful workmanship, an ornament costing a thousand crowns, ordered from Fossin by an Englishwoman who departed without taking it. [Let us observe, in passing, that there seems to have been a mysterious charm to Balzac in buying articles "order-



ed" by other people. Modeste Mignon's whip had been "made by Stidmann for a Russian who had not been able to pay for it." But to return to Madame Rabourdin's wreath.) The leaves were of stamped iron, light as real vine leaves, and the artist had not forgotten the graceful tendrils which were to twist among the ringlets, just as they catch on every branch. Her bracelets, necklace, and earrings were of Berlin iron, but these delicate arabesques came from Vienna, and seemed to have been made by those fairies who, "etc., etc., etc." Her black dress, of which the fashion (*décolleté* to the last point) was the invention of a "divine dressmaker"—this enchanting dress was of "mousseline de laine, a material which the manufacturer had not yet sent to Paris, a divine material [worthy of the "divine" dressmaker] which later had a wild success. This success [here Balzac changes into the *commiss-voyageur*] went further than fashions alone go in France. The positive economy of mousseline de laine [divine indeed!], which requires no washing, became so injurious to cotton goods as to revolutionize the manufacture at Rouen. [The costumer now speaks again.] Célestine's foot had a superior air in a finely-woven stocking and a slipper of Turk's satin, for her deep mourning forbade real satin. Célestine was indeed beautiful when so dressed!"

As a coiffeur, Balzac is unrivalled. Who can forget the head of Mademoiselle de Verneuil when, arraying herself in "the voluptuous garment of pagan priestesses" for a ball given by the "Chouans" in Brittany, "she twisted the long tresses of her hair so as to form at the back of the head that imperfect and flattened cone which gives so much grace to some ancient statues through a fictitious prolongation of the head; and ringlets retained in front fell on each side of her face in long shining curls? In this garb, her hair thus dressed [she added a wreath of holly above the curls à l'anglaise!], she offered a perfect resemblance to the most illustrious chefs d'œuvre of the Grecian chisel!"

We could wish to put in juxtaposition with these elaborate sketches and others like them a few of Balzac's studies of men's clothes, to show his talents not only as a dressmaker but as a tailor. He was equally "divine" in both businesses; and there are moments when the dressing-gowns of his heroes, or more especially their waistcoats, seem almost to outshine anything a woman could wear. It would be interesting also to select passages displaying the "momentary" manners of his men and women—their "dress" in words and looks, phrases and attitudes; it would all show the same pervading ignorance and inelegance. But our space is filled.

#### FOREIGN AND COLONIAL TROUBLES OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

LONDON, January 14, 1885.

Is a democratic country, or let us say, is a parliamentary country, unfit to have a foreign policy? Must it, however successful in adjusting its domestic quarrels before they reach a point dangerous to public tranquillity, be condemned to see its action in the larger world paralyzed by internal divisions of opinion and the timidity or hesitation of its Executive? This is a question which Englishmen have been accustomed to put when they have observed the behavior of France since 1870: her restlessness and uncertainty, the alternate fits of boldness and of reserve, the sense of weakness in Europe relieving itself by bullying weak and semi-civilized Powers in other parts of the world. It is a question which they have now been led to consider with more anxiety and less self-complacency by the ill luck which has attended them in almost every dealing they have had with foreign Powers since foreign affairs be-

gan (in 1876) to become an important part of their national action. Lord Beaconsfield's Ministry mismanaged the Eastern question, abandoning Turkey, whom it began by wishing to befriend and uphold, making itself ridiculous by the acquisition of useless Cyprus, engaging in an utterly useless and unjustifiable war with the Afghans, allowing one colonial Governor to commit them to an attack on the Zulus, and another to annex the Transvaal, which it has been found desirable subsequently to abandon. Mr. Gladstone's Government, which began with better auspices, because it had the decisive adhesion of the popular majority to the principles it announced in 1880, has, with the exception of the settlement of the Montenegrin and Greek frontier questions in 1880 and 1881, been just as unlucky as Lord Beaconsfield was in every enterprise beyond the limits of England. It has had a constant succession of troubles in South Africa with natives as well as with the Transvaal Dutch. It has sunk deeper and deeper in the Serboian bog of Egypt. It undertook a short but sanguinary Red Sea coast campaign for which no adequate ground has ever been assigned. It is engaged in a hazardous expedition into Sudan which must cost some ten millions sterling. It has incurred the hostility of Germany and the suspicions of France, and while the latter checks every scheme for the resettlement of Egypt, the former seems to go out of her way to show her spite by annexing territories in Africa and the Western Pacific which the British colonies, seconded by a large body of opinion at home, were anxious to retain or acquire. Your readers know the facts in all these cases; I am only concerned to state how they affect public opinion in England and the future of parties there.

First, however, there is one doubtful point to determine. Is it really true that Germany is hostile? For a long time people in England refused to believe this, being unable to discover any reason for it. We have no dislike to the Germans, no interests opposed to theirs, no conceivable ground for a quarrel with them. We have, therefore, failed to understand why they should seek to quarrel with us, and have disregarded the frequently offensive language of their press. The fact, however, that this language has been so persistently used by journals known to be under the influence of Bismarck was beginning to surprise us, when the annexation of a large part of New Guinea—an act for which there seemed no apparent motive of interest on Germany's part—convinced most observers that Bismarck must wish to show himself unfriendly. Why, we are still in doubt. It can hardly be the personal aversion to Mr. Gladstone with which he is credited; that seems too small a motive. It does not seem connected with the desire to set England and France by the ears, which has been pretty patent through his conduct in the Egyptian business. It looks like a deliberate purpose to irritate England, and let her know that she must not expect good will from the great Power of Central Europe. What is behind this nobody seems to know, but the general impression among politicians here and in France is, that the act marks the isolation of England from all friends in Europe, except Italy; and this is, of course, made a charge against the conduct of the Ministry.

As Parliament is not sitting, as few members of the Government have lately spoken in public, and as they are always obliged to maintain much reserve in discussing the behavior of foreign Powers, their defence has not been heard. The London press does little or nothing for them, and most of its strong organs are openly against them. The newspapers in the great provincial cities are more loyal and hearty, but their advocacy consists chiefly in minimizing the impor-

ance of foreign affairs, in dwelling on the successful settlement of Parliamentary reform, and putting forward programmes of radical measures for the next Parliament. Thus the assailants have it all their own way for the present, and the lull in domestic politics which has followed the arrangement of the Redistribution difficulty has left the public at full leisure to listen to their continued invectives on the shortsightedness, the timidity, the clumsiness, etc., etc., of the present Cabinet. Respect for Mr. Gladstone, and the sense that weakened health may soon oblige him to pass from power into the retirement of private life, divert the brunt of the storm from his head to Lord Granville and Lord Derby, who are respectively responsible for Foreign Affairs and for the Colonies. The Radicals have never cared for either statesman, and do not trouble themselves with the defence of great peers whose places they would willingly see filled by more advanced politicians.

That there is a good deal of exaggeration in the censure bestowed on the Government, goes without saying. People always forget how many mistakes the best foreign ministers make, and the fathers of those who now recall with a sigh the wisdom and vigor of Palmerston, abused him just as roundly and quite as justly for his meddling everywhere, for his abandonment of the Ionian Islands, for his apparent breach of faith with Denmark in 1864. The Egyptian question has been of quite unprecedented difficulty, because the complications with the Powers of Europe, as well as with the Sultan, which various treaties have created, make it impossible for England to take any decided step without incurring the imputation, particularly odious to Mr. Gladstone, of violating our engagements. The recent conduct of it has harassed and worried him as nothing in his previous political life has ever done. He generally bears anxiety with the equanimity which comes of long practice, and is able to obtain relief by turning to other subjects. But this vexation has told on his health and sleep. As respects the difficulties with Germany, Angora Pequena, Santa Lucia, and New Guinea no great harm has after all been done. The first is a strip of barren coast, perfectly worthless to the Germans and to ourselves, so, however feebly our Foreign Office and Colonial Office may have behaved, English interests have not really suffered. As this was too small a thing to care about, so New Guinea was almost too large a thing to undertake. We have so much territory already unoccupied, and can so little hope to colonize tropical regions with our own people, that it may be doubted whether the Colonial Office was not right in refusing to declare the Protectorate which the Australian Colonies wished for. It is not therefore so much the harm done that has annoyed sensible men—the "Jingoes," as they are called, who seek only a pretext to attack the Ministry on every occasion, may be left out of account—as the notion that neither foreign nor colonial questions are in strong hands, and that if there were to be the least danger of a war arising from some complications like these, we should run the risk of again drifting into it, as we did with the Czar Nicholas in 1852, merely because our Ministers would not have soon enough known their own minds and spoken out the will of the country with decision. Besides, there is the mortification of feeling one's self either outwitted or bullied. To lose £50 by sheer accident is not so provoking as to be tricked out of 5 shillings through one's own stupidity.

Although this feeling prevails, and prevails so far that even sturdy Ministerialists when they make speeches in defence of the Government, say little or nothing upon foreign or colonial matters, and dismiss Egypt with the remark that though the Ministry may not have done very well, Lord

Salisbury would doubtless have done much worse, still it must not be supposed that the bulk of the voters are much affected. The class which cries out at little mortifications to national pride, the class which assumes that British interests are always to prevail against other interests (just as so many Englishmen expect always to get the best rooms at a Swiss hotel), the class which takes the whole ocean to be a British possession, and islands appanages of the English Crown, as the Popes of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries claimed them to be appanages of the tiara—this class is and has for years been hostile to Mr. Gladstone and to advanced Liberalism. It includes very few of those who have helped to seat him in power. Its opposition may always be reckoned on; and this outbreak is, therefore, no desertion, no transfer of force to the opposite camp. The great bulk of the Radicals in the towns and in those manufacturing and mining counties which the Redistribution Bill makes so much more powerful, is usually almost indifferent to what happens outside England. I do not say that a great crisis, involving unmistakably the honor or the naval and colonial greatness of the country, would not rouse it, but discussions like the present do not. It is thinking only of getting good Radicals to fill the new seats, and of the reforming measures which will then follow. It is willing to believe that Lord Granville may be getting rather too old for such a difficult post as his, that Lord Derby has always been too timid and undecided, but it thinks nothing can go far wrong while Mr. Gladstone is at the helm, and calls the attacks of the London papers "Jingo nonsense." So far as one can see now, it would take greater mistakes than have been made, a far greater catastrophe than any which past mistakes seem at all likely to involve, to prevent the Redistribution scheme from bearing its natural fruits in a large Liberal majority at the next general election in January, and that is the point of time on which all eyes are now fixed.

Nevertheless, it must not be assumed that because the Radicals stand by the Government, therefore the Government is not damaged. The confidence of many moderate men, who mostly take no active part in agitation, but influence the public by their attitude even more than they do elections by their votes, has been seriously shaken. For instance, whereas five or six years ago people thought of Lord Granville as a probable Prime Minister, and of Lord Derby as a valuable member of a Cabinet, no one thinks so now. The fighting Tories are, of course, horribly mortified that the compromise on Parliamentary reform, with the passing of the Franchise Bill, has made it useless for them to try to throw out the Ministry. Both parties are now pledged to carry the Redistribution Bill; both parties feel that the general election of 1886 will decide their respective positions, and the Tories would have little or nothing to gain by winning office now if they were to be thrown out then, while they would find themselves confronted at once by these foreign complications which are now telling against the Government. Had the Franchise Bill not been passed, they might, by defeating the Ministry, have succeeded in postponing Parliamentary reform for a session or two, and perhaps settled Redistribution in a way favorable to themselves. Events have more than ever proved how little they are a match for Mr. Gladstone in Parliamentary tactics, while the Liberals plaintively murmur that it is a pity their leaders cannot show in foreign and colonial policy the same admirable skill with which they have played their game at home.

Y.

## Correspondence.

GENERAL JORDAN AND GENERAL JOHNSTON.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your critic, in his review of the *Century* articles regarding the battle of Shiloh, can hardly have done me the honor to read more than cursorily my small share thereof of less than six pages; otherwise he would not have fancied that the *Century* "has carried its purpose of hearing both sides so far as to add General Jordan's article as an antidote to the imputations upon General Beauregard's generalship, which are found in the article by Colonel Johnston."

What I wrote consisted of brief notes of separate events or incidents connected either with the inception of the campaign or with the battle. In not one of them did I refer to the impugnment of Beauregard's generalship adventured by the writer who has undertaken to supply the readers of the *Century* with the Confederate story of the battle of Shiloh, as the pendant to General Grant's version of the affair. Nor, in fact, did I write a word, in my notes, of General Beauregard's generalship, antidotally or otherwise. I simply confined myself to certain matters with which I had been officially connected as Adjutant-General of the Confederate army that fought the battle in question, about which I had been specifically asked by the editors of the *Century* to write as compactly as possible. Not aware that Mr. Preston Johnston had found it seemly to avail himself of such an occasion to rake the grave for evidence with which to impugn General Beauregard's generalship, I certainly did not attempt to administer an antidote to a *bane* of whose existence I was ignorant.

I have only to add that probably the greater part of the readers of the *Century* have found an efficient antidote to Mr. Johnston's *bane* in what General Grant said of the Confederate generalship, pages 608 and 609 of the *Century*. Another antidote, however, military men generally will find in Mr. Johnston's article itself, in the fact that General Johnston received his death wound as early as 2 P.M., in the first day's battle, at the extreme Confederate right—extreme Union left—while, according to Mr. Johnston, in the act of leading a single brigade into action, at a time, be it noted, when the Confederates were in the full tide of success in all quarters of the field. Now, assuredly, it cannot be regarded as the office of the Commander-in-Chief of an army in battle to occupy himself exclusively, as Mr. Johnston studiously represents his father to have done, in leading isolated brigades, one by one, into action. To men professionally acquainted with the supremely momentous responsibilities which weigh upon the commander of an army in battle, and who must understand that it is his true part, as Shakspeare tells us, to

"—contrive how many hands shall strike,  
When fitness calls them on, and know, by measure  
Of their observant toil, the enemies' weight."

I need not point out that a commanding general can only efficiently discharge his functions from some central position, carefully selected, from which he may give the constant continuous propulsion and direction to that tremendous aggregation of mental, physical, and mechanical forces which constitute a modern army. Therefore, the mere historical fact that General Johnston did not take such a position at any time during the battle of Shiloh, but, on the contrary, sought the very front edge of the battle, must show to military men conclusively that General Johnston, for some reason sufficient to himself, must have seen fit to abdicate to his "second in command" the conduct of the battle of Shiloh from the beginning of the combat.

The antidote, it seems to me, to any criticism adventured by Mr. Johnston of Beauregard's generalship must arise spontaneously in the minds of the *Century* readers generally, as they find this critic gravely representing his paternal hero parading *bareheaded*, just before he was mortally wounded, in front of a brigade, encouraging it with his "fine voice and manly bravery," with his "sword rested in his scabbard. In his right hand he held a little tin cup. . . . It was this plaything which, holding it between two fingers, he employed more effectively in his natural and simple gesticulation than most men could have used a sword."

Need I say that it is only on the melodramatic or comic-opera stage that a commanding general of an army upon a battle-field is made to brandish his sword, or carry that insignia of command otherwise than resting in its scabbard?

It is certainly far from my purpose to say or intimate aught in derogation of the soldierly capacity or personal worth of Albert Sidney Johnston, the right appreciation of whom, however, is, as I sincerely believe, not to be formed from the pictures of him on the field of Shiloh or elsewhere—so florid, overwrought, and fanciful—which have been so profusely presented by his son to the public gaze in the *Century* article.

THOMAS JORDAN.

NEW YORK, January 28.

## RUSSIAN NOVELISTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I am glad that your Paris correspondent has called the attention of the public to Count Leo Tolstoi's magnificent novel, 'War and Peace.' I cannot speak as to the merits of the French translation referred to, as I have not seen it, but no praise can exaggerate the merits of the original in the directions pointed out by your correspondent.

It is time that the English-reading public should learn that Russia has produced other authors besides Turgeneff. The inimitable Gogol, whose tales Turgeneff declared that he knew by heart, and of whom he said, "We are proud of him as one of our glories," is as unknown here as is Count Leo Tolstoi; while Count Alexei Tolstoi is known only by a translation of his fine 'Prince Serebranny.' This, like the translation, from the Dutch, of Van Lennep's 'Ferdinand Huyck' (under the title of 'The Count of Talavera'), is absolutely incoherent in its abridged form.

But I fear we are not likely to see either Gogol or Leo Tolstoi at present. As in the famous case of Mr. Daddy Longlegs and Mr. Floppy Fly, opposite causes produce identical results. Mr. D. Longlegs could not go to court because of the length of his limbs, while Mr. F. Fly was forced to stay at home because his were too short. Gogol's inimitable tales are pronounced too short by the very publishers who would call Tolstoi's 'War and Peace' too long. Still, in case any publisher should feel inclined to venture on the latter, there are two mistakes which I sincerely hope to see avoided: 1st. If it be considered necessary to abridge the story, let the work be done with skill, that it may not prove a mutilation. 2d. And above all, let the translation be made directly from the Russian, and not through any French or German version, however good. No language can endure the double strain, and Russian least of all.

If Turgeneff be voted "dull" by the majority of people, and left on the booksellers' shelves, it is due, in part, at least, to the above cause, viz., a double translation.—Yours truly,

B. H.

BOSTON.



## A DISTRACTED HISTORIAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In your review of 'John Adams,' in the 'American Statesmen Series,' you note among Mr. Morse's qualifications as a biographer that he possesses "a considerable power of sympathy." Perhaps it is this "power of sympathy" with his subject which has led Mr. Morse to make certain statements in this last work which do not harmonize with those previously uttered by him. In his 'Life of Alexander Hamilton,' published some years ago, he touched upon some points of dispute and the general lack of harmony between Hamilton and Adams; in the biography of Adams he has had to deal with the same points a second time, and the statements made in the two biographies seem to me to warrant their comparison. On the question whether Pickering, McHenry, and Wolcott were guilty of any political or moral obliquity in submitting to Hamilton's judgment and dictation while they remained members of Adams's Cabinet, and in general of their relations to Adams, Mr. Morse says in

## 'Life of Hamilton.'

"If indeed the Secretaries betrayed Cabinet secrets, they did wrong. Nor does any evidence of such conduct upon their part exist." (Vol. II, p. 234.)

"Neither is it by any means clear that the Secretaries should have insisted upon retiring from office." (Vol. II, p. 236.)

"Nor does any evidence of such conduct upon their part exist. . . . Yet even to such allegations the lax custom of the day might be pleaded in extenuation, if not in full excuse." (P. 234.)

"Three members of the Cabinet (Pickering, McHenry, and Wolcott) had long been obnoxious to the President as being more amenable to alien influence than to his own. They were now ejected in rapid succession." (Vol. II, p. 296.)

"Wolcott had made an admirable Secretary of the Treasury, nor would it be easy to fill his place. He was therefore retained a little longer until the matter could be arranged without prejudice to the public affairs, when he also was compelled to retire." (Vol. II, p. 297.)

Again, in speaking of the probable rupture and consequent chasm likely to be opened in the Federalist party by the nomination of a Minister to France, the author says in

## 'Life of Hamilton.'

"Adams would not stand quite alone upon his side of it. Men who loved peace and economy at any price would probably adhere to him. His influence and position would attract others. The bulk of the party would not go with him." (Vol. II, p. 286.)

Other equally noticeable inconsistencies occur in the two books. It is not necessary to decide here which set of statements is nearer the truth. The comparison was made simply to show that the inconsistencies exist, and to illustrate the effects of a "power of sympathy" that is occa-

## 'Life of Adams.'

"They [the Secretaries] were in such a frame of mind that they betrayed all official discussions to Hamilton; they sought and followed Hamilton's advice. They did this for the purpose of gaining Hamilton's invaluable aid in their opposition to their proper chief." (P. 311.)

"According to received principles, fair dealing to Mr. Adams, even justice to themselves, would have led them to resign when they so utterly differed from him that their sole aim was to thwart him. But however this may have been, certain it is that any decent sense of propriety—nay, for the word must be used, of honor—would have led them to refrain from communicating Cabinet secrets for use against the President by his avowed enemy." (P. 312.)

"Pickering richly deserved unceremonious expulsion; but Mr. Adams courteously offered him the opportunity to resign." (P. 314.)

"Wolcott . . . had habitually spoken the President so far that he was regarded by Mr. Adams as a friendly adviser, though very far from really being so. He now continued for some months to combine external civility and deference to the President with the function of Cabinet reporter, so to speak—and to avoid the word spy—for Mr. Hamilton. In the following November, amid all the vexations which that ill-starred season brought to Mr. Adams, he sent in his resignation, leaving the President to look for an incumbent who would be willing to hold the office for two months." (P. 315.)

## 'Life of Adams.'

"In no caucus of the Federalist members of Congress could the Hamiltonians ever muster a majority against Mr. Adams. Neither does there seem any reason to doubt that upon a simple vote of all the Federalists in the country taken at any time during his administration, much more than half would have sustained him." (P. 307.)

sionally over-strong. In one work the author exhibits a tendency to uphold Hamilton at the expense of Adams, while in the other he favors Adams where the two men differ. Perhaps this is what might have been expected, and yet, in the case of a writer like Mr. Morse, whose opinions we have a right to consider authoritative, such a wavering of opinion—not to say contradiction of statement—is far from satisfactory to the reader.

GEORGE W. KNIGHT.

ANN ARBOR, MICH., January 27, 1885.

## HAULING OFF ON THE WHIPSTAFF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The English marine-novelist, Mr. Clark Russell, in a magazine article wherein he falls foul of Fenimore Cooper savagely, calls the phrase in Gulliver, "we hauled off on the whipstaff, and helped the man at the helm," a piece of meaningless nonsense. Per contra, the phrase is shown to exist in a respectable Seaman's Guide of that date, and the question arises what may it mean.

Russell says that the "whipstaff" is the stick from which the pendant (still called a "whip," I believe, by sailors) hangs, and which itself is lashed to the mast-head. Very good, but was that always its sole meaning? Now, it is to be noted that the build of ships has much altered since Swift's time. In his day, if a ship carried the fore-and-aft mizzen-sail, which we call a spanker, it at least did not reach to the poop, which was high and peaked, and furnished with an ensign-staff that doubtless went down as far as the deck, behind the man at the helm. Now, it is a feasible supposition that this went in those days by the same name, "whipstaff," which is now given to its smaller variety at the mast-head. If so, it gives ground for an intelligible explanation.

I remember once, in the long-gone days of sloops and pettiaguers, coming from down the bay in New Jersey with a strong wind abeam. The vessel heeled so, and made such way, that the man "could not hold up his helm," as the Guide says. So they got a block and tackle, hooked one block to the windward bulwark, fastened another to the tiller, and gave the helmsman the end of the tackle to haul on; thus helping the man at the helm. Now, what if in Captain Gulliver's ship they did substantially the same thing, only hooking the block (or blocks) to the whipstaff, and hauling at the helmsman's order? If so, the matter is very simple and reasonable.

One matter in which Mr. Russell pitches into Cooper is the incident, in the 'Pilot,' of a whale being killed off the Yorkshire coast. But this event seems hardly beyond that moderate license allowed to novelists as well as painters and poets. What is more objectionable, though I think Mr. Russell does not mention it, is the collecting a shoal of sharks round it in a few hours. And I conceive it is still more incorrect to have a large, vigorous whale killed by one wound of a harpoon. If so, Mr. Russell has fairly missed the pigeon and hit the crow.

S. A.

HARTFORD, January 30, 1885.

## BOHN'S TRANSLATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Professor Goodwin's letter (in the Nation of January 29) on a misrepresentation of Plato's 'Republic' is of value not only in showing up the immediate mistake, but in adding weight to the disesteem deserved in general by the translations in Bohn's library. So many persons unable to read the originals read these translations believing them to be faithful, at least to the author's meaning, that it is much to be desired that proof after proof should be given that this is not

the case. Long ago Mr. Matthew Arnold exclaimed: "Think of the difference between the translations of the classics turned out from Mr. Bohn's library and those turned out from Mr. Nisard's collection!" using it as an illustration of the lack of literary training among the men who do such work in England. And though since then better scholars have occasionally done excellent translations which have appeared in Mr. Bohn's various series, yet much the larger number of "Bohn's" translations are comparatively worthless; and it is astonishing that readers with any literary training themselves can fail to see this—to feel it, even when they do not know the originals; just as one can tell whether a portrait is a likeness or not without seeing the person.

These thoughts are fresh in my mind, because very lately, in turning over the leaves of the translation of Goethe's 'Aus meinem Leben' and the 'Italienische Reise,' published forty years ago but reissued in 1881, I was struck with the constant outrageous absurdities of rendering, and not infrequent serious mistakes, which cannot all be charitably ascribed to misprints, though misprints are numerous, and often of a bewildering kind—as where we are told that the women of Verona "are well made and have a decided pupil, but are for the most part pale." The fact is they have an "entschiedene Profile." But one of the many serious mistakes is this. The translation makes Goethe say, in a passage describing ancient monuments: "Here a man in armor is on his knees in expectation of a joyful resurrection." The original is the exact opposite: "Hier ist kein geharnischter Mann." Even if the edition used by the translator had the misprint, "Hier ist ein," not to perceive it to be wrong shows that he did not the least comprehend the context, with which the one statement is in union, the other perfectly at variance.

As Baron de Grimm said, a hundred and thirty years ago: "If it were only for example's sake, I would have every such translator condemned to a month's confinement in a lunatic asylum." (I wish to confess that, not having the original at hand, I quote this sentence from a translation, an anonymous translation dated 1814; but such vivacious authenticity is in every line of the book, that I am ready to vouch for its essential truth, without comparing it with the original.)

Yours truly,

A LOVER OF TRUSTWORTHY WORK.

## WHITTIER'S FREMONT CAMPAIGN SONGS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Your note in No. 1019 (January 8), relative to Whittier's missing campaign song of 1856, sent me to my Fremont campaign scrap-book. I found there words to the air "Suomi la tromba," but none by Whittier; nor do I remember ever to have seen his song beginning

"Sound now the trumpet warningly."

I found, however, a copy of his "Song, inscribed to the Fremont Clubs," after the election, bearing date November 10, 1856, and beginning,

"Beneath thy skies, November."

I do not find this song in the complete edition of Whittier's poems published in 1870. Is it also out of print? JAMES O. PIERCE.

MEMPHIS, January 29, 1885.

## PRIMITIVE COLOR-PREFERENCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Those scholars who advocate the theory of the development of color-perception maintain that the ancients (as well as the savages of the present day) preferred red and yellow objects to those of any other color, on account of their

being more luminous. There is no doubt that red and yellow were favorite colors with them, but this explanation is not satisfactory. A savage of to-day will choose red, even if it be dull, in preference to a bright green or blue. Scientifically it can be explained as follows: Primitive man passed his life chiefly out of doors. The green of the vegetation and the blue of the sky almost constantly meet his eyes. As is well known, when the eyes grow weary looking at one color for a considerable length of time, they are immediately refreshed when the complementary color is presented to them. Accordingly, primitive man took the greatest delight in the complementary of green, namely red, and in the complementary of blue, namely orange (yellow and red).

W. O. SPROULL.

UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI, JANUARY 24, 1885.

## Notes.

THE publishers of Lady Brassey's 'In the Trades' are Henry Holt & Co., notwithstanding the strange fashion in which their name got misprinted in our last issue.

The third volume of Schouler's 'History of the United States,' covering the period 1817-1831, will be published by William H. Morison, Washington, in May next. This will be welcome news to those who know the singular value of Mr. Schouler's work.

Charles Scribner's Sons publish this month a new edition of the late Geo. P. Marsh's works, with important additions and revisions; the fourth volume of Doctor Schaff's 'History of the Christian Church'; 'Medieval History'; an illustrated edition of J. G. Holland's works, in fourteen volumes; and 'Instructions in Rifle and Carbine Firing,' by Capt. S. E. Blunt, U. S. A.

D. Lothrop & Co., Boston, announce 'Southern Alaska and the Sitkan Archipelago,' by Miss E. R. Scidmore; and 'Philosophie Questor; or, Days at Concord,' by Mrs. Julia R. Anagnos.

Mr. Edmund Gosse, who returned to England on January 27 to resume his duties as Clark Lecturer on English Literature to the University of Cambridge, left behind him the MS. of the lectures on English Poetry from the death of Shakspeare to the rise of Pope, which he delivered in the course of the Lowell Institute at Boston, at Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, and in a circle of private houses in New York—for New York is wholly without the administrative machinery and the endowment which give stability and dignity to the lecture system in Boston and Baltimore. These lectures will shortly be published by James R. Osgood & Co.

Mr. George J. Coombes is about to publish a book likely to interest those who have taken delight in the excellent performances of the company of the London Lyceum Theatre. It is entitled 'Henry Irving in New York,' and is a revised reprint of the several criticisms of Mr. Irving's acting in this city, written from day to day by Mr. William Winter. The book will be printed with the utmost care, in emulation of the editions of M. Jouaust and M. Quantin.

Henry Holt & Co. will publish during February a volume containing a 'Choix de Contes Contemporains,' edited by Mr. B. F. O'Connor, Ph.D., Instructor in French at Columbia College, which is likely to be as interesting as it is useful. It will contain short stories by Alfred de Musset, Théophile Gautier, and Edmond About, now dead, and of Alphonse Daudet, François Coppée, and André Theuriot—all past-masters in the art and mystery of writing short stories. Mr. O'Connor will append such literary and linguistic notes as the tales may seem to demand.

The same publishers have brought out a sub-

stantial work on 'The Civil Service in the United States,' by John M. Comstock, chairman of the United States Board of Examiners for the Customs Service in this city. The very size of it (more than six hundred pages) is emphatic testimony to the permanence of the reform which it illustrates. In brief, it is a complete enumeration of the places in our present civil establishment—both the classified service, with competitive and non-competitive offices distinguished, and the unclassified, not subject to competition. Salaries are everywhere indicated. These schedules are followed by minute practical information as to the methods of gaining admission to the civil service, with specimens of examination papers in the several departments. Finally, the New York and Massachusetts State and municipal rules, fixed by the latest legislation, are given in full. This timely volume is therefore a landmark in American progress toward good government. The thoroughness with which it has been edited is a guarantee of its popular acceptance as the highest authority on the subject. It will be revised from time to time.

An arrangement of Federal offices by States perhaps warrants the continuance of 'The United States Blue Book' (Washington: J. H. Soule), of which the fourth edition is before us. In all other respects it would seem to be superseded by the work just described.

The critic readily abdicates his function in presence of type so fine as that in which 'Webster's Condensed Dictionary,' edited by Mr. Dorsey Gardner, is set (Iverson, Blakeman & Co.). Though beautifully printed, no one ought to use it except for occasional and momentary reference, and even then with a *loupe*, if possible. It would, for instance, be ruinous to a schoolboy's eyes. The compression is got by omitting certain classes of technical terms and of compounds, and by a German arrangement of root-word and derivatives. Illustrations have been retained, and the etymologies have profited by the latest works on the subject. So far as we have tested this dictionary, it bears out the publishers' claim that it has been carefully wrought over, and is not a simple reprint.

The *Magazine of American History* for February is exceptionally even in the quality of its articles, though Doctor Vermilye's entertaining "Early New York Post-office" has a rambling character which belies the writer's age, and Judge Gayarré's illustrations of General Jackson's piety have a naïveté also suggestive of a past or passing generation.

Every visitor to the Centennial Exhibition of 1876 remembers the wonderfully effective screens of photographic transparencies, chiefly representing our Indian population. The New Orleans correspondent of the *Photographic Times* tells of like transparencies in the photographic department of the Cotton Exposition—brilliant, dazzling, elegant, splendid, stupendous, he calls them. He notices especially the Kentucky series, geological and scenic, and those illustrating Indian life in New Mexico.

The second leading article in *Le Livre* for January is a translation, by M. de Sainte-Heraye, of Mr. Pascoe's article on "The English Magazine" in the *Atlantic* of September, 1884. M. Champfleury, this journal announces, is at work on a new volume on Caricature. From the same source we learn that a committee of the Société des Gens de lettres has resolved that there should be a Literary Congress in Paris in 1889 (as in 1878) at the projected World's Exhibition. A sub-committee has been charged with drawing up a programme.

An English edition of R. W. Bucke's 'Walt Whitman' has just been published by Wilson & McCormick, of Glasgow. It differs from the American edition in having an appendix of

twenty pages contributed by Prof. Edward Dowden, and entitled 'English Critics on Walt Whitman.' Professor Dowden summarizes the statements of some forty English critics who have in one way or another expressed opinions concerning Whitman's writings. A letter from Mr. William Bell Scott, printed in this appendix, gives an account of how copies of the first or Brooklyn edition of 'Leaves of Grass' reached England a few months after the publication of the book in 1855. A wandering book auctioneer brought copies from the United States to Sunderland in the summer of 1856. These copies were bought by Mr. Thomas Dixon, the cork-cutter, to whom Mr. Ruskin addressed the letters afterwards published with the title 'Time and Tide by Weare and Tyne.' Mr. Dixon sent copies to Mr. Scott, who writes:

"This is, I think, worthy of record, as, no publisher being interested in this first edition of the book, it might have been long enough before reaching this country, but for the travelling James Grindrod with his Dutch auction. Besides, his having a number of copies in his miscellaneous pack shows the small value of the book in America at its first appearance."

Messrs. Robert Boyle & Son, of London, have devised an arrangement for ventilating prisons which will be very inconvenient for those novelists whose plots demand that the prisoners in contiguous cells should be able to communicate with each other through the air passages. In their plan a single horizontal shaft drains the air from ten cells, but they are all isolated, for a metal plate or partition extends from the opening of any one cell along the shaft and past the openings of the next two. To deafen the plates near the opening, they are made double, and the space between the two is packed with sand, and the horizontal shaft is similarly deadened as it passes through the cells.

The flag-staff on the roof of the Capitol caught fire on January 26 from a spark. The autograph messages of the earlier Presidents, and many messages to Congress in the handwriting of the members of the early Cabinets, were stored close to the fire. Congress was alarmed at the thought that these had a narrow escape. It would be well if Congressmen would remember that a considerable part of the National Library is stored in the same upper story, and that the whole is not too far distant to be destroyed if a fire once got a good hold upon the building.

We note with pleasure that Doctor Story has lately published, in the Johns Hopkins University Circular, No. 36, for January, 1885, a list of the models of mathematical surfaces for facilitating geometric instruction, which the University has been accumulating within the past two years. The models are in wood, card, thread, and plaster, and were made by J. Schröder and L. Brill, of Darmstadt. Doctor Story classifies this valuable collection of models under three heads, the first of which, representing simple solids, comprises forty-one wood models, the second, surfaces, including 123 models chiefly in plaster, and the third, descriptive-geometry models, of which there are fifty.

The Congo bids fair soon to be as well known as the Rhine. In addition to elaborate maps by the English, French, and Portuguese, there has been recently published one on a still larger scale by Asher in Berlin. It is in twenty-five sections, on a scale of 1.1 geographical miles to an inch, and plots with great minuteness a strip of country, averaging twelve miles in width, through which the expedition sent out by the German Government under Major von Mechow passed. Be followed down the Quango nearly to its junction with the Congo above Stanley Pool.

The sharp contrast existing between the position of the drama in France and the position of the drama in England and America is shown by



a comparison of the theatrical year-books of the three countries. In France the drama is an art, having its necessary mercantile side overshadowed by the æsthetic, and the *Almanach des Spectacles* is as dainty and beautiful a little book as one can find anywhere. In Great Britain and the United States the drama is a speculation, having only occasional relations with art—and the British *Era Almanack* and the American *New York Clipper Annual*, the issues of both of which for 1885 lie before us, are the year-books of a prosperous trade. The *Era Almanack* has as its chief object of interest a collection of facsimile autographs of famous actors and actresses of the past, and a series of views of old provincial theatres. The *New York Clipper Annual* is disfigured by a vulgar chromo-cover. The sporting chronology and record are both fuller and more accurate than the list of "dramatic notabilities."

A hitherto inedited treatise of D'Alembert's, "Réflexions sur l'état de la République des lettres," written in 1760, is reproduced by Brunel's 'Les Philosophes et l'Académie Française au XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle,' recently published by Hachette. The intrigues of the philosophers, especially D'Alembert and Voltaire, to overthrow the rule of the "Throne and the Altar," and establish freedom of thought and speech in the place of despotism, political and religious, is the special subject of Brunel's scholarly study.

The French periodical *Bulletin Astronomique*, whose inception we noted some months ago, has now completed its initial volume of between six and seven hundred pages with the number for December, 1884. The journal has been so far exclusively devoted to the publication of the observations and original researches of the French astronomers, as was contemplated from the outset, and there appears to have been no lack of material of the first order. The pages in each number which have reviewed the astronomical publications and magazines of other nations have been prepared in a thoroughly satisfactory manner, and have added an international element greatly desired. It will be remembered that the editor-in-chief of the *Bulletin* is M. Tisserand, of the Paris observatory.

The 200th anniversary of the liberation of Vienna from the Turkish siege of 1683, in which the Polish King John Sobieski played so famous a part, is made the occasion of the publication of a bibliography entitled 'Sobieskiana.'

The fresh light thrown upon the life and times of Lorenzo de' Medici by late research and the discovery of new documents has induced Herr Reumont to bring out a second edition of his biography of the Florentine prince. For the new edition, Reumont has profited in a great measure, says the *Archivio storico italiano*, by the letters of Lorenzo, which have lately been restored to the archives of Florence, after a disappearance of many years.

Mr. Christern sends us the prospectuses of several important works: 'Saint François d'Assise,' a literary and artistic monument to the founder of the Franciscan order, illustrated in various styles (including color), after the great masters, miniatures, etc., etc. (Paris: E. Plon); a German translation, the first ever made, of the Babylonian Talmud, with note and comment (Innsbruck); and 'Deutsche Drucke älterer Zeit, in Nachbildungen,' edited by Dr. Wilhelm Scherer of the University of Berlin (Berlin: G. Grote). This interesting series of facsimiles of rare early-printed German works will find a ready sale among all book-lovers. The 'Biblia Pauperum,' Brant's 'Narrenschiff,' the so-called first edition of the 'Germania' of Tacitus, 1470; the 'Faust' of 1587; Fischart's 'Gargantua'; Luther's 'Geistliches Liederbuch' (containing his "Ein feste Burg") and 'Passional Christi und Antichristi'; 'Reinke de vos,' 1498; selections from Hans

Sachs's 'Bildergedichte'; 'Ritter vom Turn,' 1493; 'Volksbüchlein vom Kaiser Friedrich Barbarossa,' 1519; Ulrich von Hutten's German writings, etc., etc., are a part of the long list. Only 300 copies will be printed of each work.

We learn from the *Athenæum* that Dr. Alexander Schmidt is preparing a new edition of his incomparable 'Shakspeare Lexicon,' which is out of print. It will be some years, however, before the work can be printed.

German scholars are diligently cultivating the domain of old British literature. Prof. J. Schipper, of Vienna, has lately placed himself in the front rank of workers in this field. In 1882 he began the publication of a work on 'English Prosody' (Bonn), the first volume of which is devoted to 'Altenglische Metrik.' Last year he followed it with an extensive monograph on William Dunbar, "the darling of the Scottish muse," the most considerable British poet between Chaucer and Spenser. Of this work we shall shortly speak somewhat at length. Its critical analyses have been received with marked applause in Edinburgh, and its translations by competent criticism in Germany. It may be remarked that the diction of the same Scottish poet is the theme of another critical monograph by a German writer, Dr. Johannes Kaufmann, but composed in French: 'Traité de la langue du poète écossais William Dunbar, précédé d'une esquisse de sa vie,' etc. (Bonn, 1873).

The historical treasures of the Vatican archives were never as freely accessible to scholars of all nations as they have been during the Pontificate of Leo XIII. Shortly after his accession German, French, Spanish, and other investigators of the past flocked to Rome to enlarge the histories of their respective countries from the new sources. In Hungary, the highest Roman Catholic clergy, under the lead of Cardinal Haynald, Archbishop of Kalocsa, instituted a systematic course of research in the light of Pontifical reports, which promises most ample historical results. Bishop Ipolyi and six learned canons formed a committee for the elaboration of the plan, and Canon Fraknói, Secretary of the Hungarian Academy, was sent to Rome as a critical compiler. The first fruit of these labors is two quarto volumes of 'Monumenta Vaticana Hungaria,' published in Buda-Pesth at the close of last year. The theme of the first is the elevation of the House of Anjou to the Hungarian throne early in the fourteenth century, and of the second, which bears the sub-title 'Relationes Oratorum Pontificiarum 1524-1526,' the political decay and anarchy which prevailed in the last years of the Jagellonian dynasty down to the fatal battle of Mohács, which subjected Hungary to the sway of the Sultans for 160 years. The reports of the Papal nuncios throw a great deal of fresh light upon the period preceding the catastrophe.

—We appreciate the flattery implied in the bodily transfer, without credit, to the literary columns of the *Philadelphia Evening Item* of our recent review of Johnson's 'Oriental Religions.' Persistence in such practices, however, will, we warn the editor, be highly injurious to his moral sense, however much his readers may profit by his obliquity.

—We have received from Mr. Thomas H. Dudley a copy of his speech on the operations of the Cobden Club and kindred subjects, delivered at Astoria, L. I., during the recent campaign, together with a letter explaining what he meant by saying that the Club had issued a pamphlet "for members of the Club alone." Mr. Dudley insists that such a pamphlet was issued, and that he has a copy of it. We inferred from Mr. Dudley's speech, as reported, that he intended to convey the impression that the Club had issued a secret pamphlet giving a statement

of large expenditures in the United States for the promotion of free trade; and such, we think, would be the inference which most persons would draw from the speech which he sends us. Still, it is fair to say that Mr. Dudley did not make that statement directly. The truth is, that the Club makes an annual business statement "for members of the Club," but it is in no sense a secret or confidential statement. It is merely such a business statement as all clubs make to their members annually.

—A note from the conductors of the *Magazin für die Litteratur des In- und Auslandes* assures us that in following the *Academy* in our issue of January 1, we did injustice to the *Magazin*. A writer in the English journal pointed out what seemed to be a piece of gross ignorance, on the part of a reviewer in the *Magazin*, in regard to Laurence Oliphant. This, we are told, was a typographical error (einen Druckfehler), and further, that the writer in question, who is described in no flattering terms, is ever on the lookout to discover flaws in a journal to which he formerly contributed till cut off for incompetence by the present editor, Mr. Eduard Engel. Dr. Fr. Hirsch, who on April 1 will resume editorial charge of the *Magazin*, has meantime replied to this critic in its columns. The shocking misprinting of English verses in the number for January 10 cannot, we fear, be explained away.

—A pamphlet entitled "A Sketch of the University of Virginia" has recently appeared, from which we learn, with some astonishment, that of the gifts it has received since its establishment in 1819, amounting to \$719,700, \$683,600 have been contributed since the war—a fact of which the moral does not need to be pointed out. This total of \$719,700 is exclusive of the gifts constituting part of the fixed endowment of the University, yielding revenue which amounts to \$282,600, all of which, except \$2,600, have been also given since the war. Virginia has always been liberal to its University—"the glory of the Commonwealth"—allowing it at first \$15,000 a year, and latterly \$40,000. Probably nothing could better illustrate the reverence felt for it by the people of the State than the fact that when the Readjusters came into control and secured a majority on the Board of Visitors, not only was no change made by them, though political passion urged it, in the faculty corps, but they filled vacancies occurring therein entirely regardless of political bias. That the University deserves this consideration is made clear by the pamphlet before us. In Mr. Jefferson's day the schools of Virginia were, to use his own words, "paltry academies." He is said to have spoken mournfully on one occasion of the fact that of the students at Princeton one-half were Virginians, obliged to obtain outside of the State even a moderate education. Since the organization of the University, Virginia has become the dispenser of liberal education to the South and West. It has to-day more of its alumni in the Senate of the United States than has any other college in the Union. About 300 of its alumni occupy professorial chairs, while many others are conducting first-class academies.

—Those who are especially interested in the question raised by Mr. Bright as to the condition of the rural population of England under the system of free trade, are likely to find much that is of interest and value in the elaborate articles of Henri Baudrillart, which have been published in the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, on the "Rural Population of France." The number for November 15 was devoted to Brittany, that portion of the country which in point of soil and climate is most like England. The object of Baudrillart is to measure the general progress of the region during the last century, and to point out the

condition of the agricultural holders and laborers at the present time. Perhaps no part of France has resisted with more energy the introduction of labor-saving machinery. The first ploughs of a modern pattern introduced into the region were broken by the peasantry, as were also the first threshing machines, and it is only recently that the peasants have denied themselves the luxury of carrying the products once a year to Paris in their own wagons. So we find the laboring classes here less affected by civilization than almost anywhere else. The allotments of land are very small, the farms ordinarily containing only about twenty acres. The largest farm in one of the departments has only thirty hectares, or seventy-five acres, while there are hundreds of not more than a tenth of that area. The region in the time of Arthur Young was the poorest in France; but under the tillage of this century it has become so productive that the arable lands are worth in the market from \$100 to \$300 per acre. Such as are tilled by leaseholders bring to the owners a rent of about four per cent. of their estimated value. The writer enters into a careful comparison and analysis for the purpose of showing how far the condition of the peasant has improved during the past hundred years. The improvement, he thinks, has been considerable, but the present condition of the peasants is not far from wretched. The food of farm laborers, he says, may be correctly described as about the following: Soup two or three times a day, a little bacon, black bread (of wheat, rye, or barley), with a little butter, oatmeal porridge, and potatoes. His drink is cider, which he takes to excess, with a little distilled liquor on Sunday. The board of a male farm hand is with some uniformity reckoned at 200 francs a year, that of a woman at 150 francs. The wage of a farm hand is about \$40 a year, besides board. Day laborers on the farm command from 75 centimes to 1 franc 50 centimes, without board. Laborers almost invariably sleep in bunks ranged one above another, in a small room in which there is often neither window nor port. Though the population is already very dense, it is increasing with considerable rapidity, every man considering it his first duty to leave children behind him. We have no space to analyze the interesting details given, but economists will find ample opportunity for instructive comparisons between the methods of France here presented and those of England.

—The February number of the *Magazine of Art* is an unusually interesting number, and the illustrations are a considerable advance on anything it has hitherto produced. The frontispiece is a curiously faithful reproduction of a black chalk drawing with a tint of red in the cheeks, a profile of Lady Maria Waldegrave, after John Downman, R. A. The "In School," from a German picture, is, with some slips, an excellent example of good, honest line wood-cutting, a style which Mr. Barnett energetically (and we think one-sidedly, if not unfairly) advocates in a review of Linton's work on wood engraving. The notice of Vedder by A. Mary F. Robinson is an interesting example of the feminine gush which seems to pass for criticism in ill-edited art journals; but Miss Robinson hardly shows enough knowledge of art to have been able to perceive that Vedder is not matter for her capacities. But empty as is her screed, there is nothing worse to be said against it. Jane G. Harrison, on the contrary, in "Pompeii in Black and White," shows what it may be permitted to call relatively a positive ignorance of art—especially in the dogmatic and absurd statements that,

"Illustrations are a modern monstrosity, unknown to Greek art, nay, more, unknown to all good art at all [*sic*]. I would not be misunder-

stood. For scientific purposes illustrations are necessary. . . . I do not say that a poet and a painter cannot both be inspired by the same thought, the same situation, the same story; but I do say advisedly that they cannot illustrate each other. . . . I have said elsewhere, and need not repeat at length here, that the ancient vase-painters never illustrated the poem of Homer. They conceived of and embodied myths they had in common with him, but by separate, independent inspiration. Here, as elsewhere, they felt by instinct the truth we ascertain by analysis."

What the writer of this superlative rubbish knows by analysis is hardly worth cumbering magazines of art with, if this article is an example. The curious statement we quote not only is untrue in its assertions and singularly misrepresents the general ethics of art, but is diametrically opposed to the opinions and practice of the best artists who have ever lived. Michael Angelo, Botticelli—in truth, the whole of the Italian, German, and Dutch religious art, is simply a course of illustrations of the Bible. Miss Harrison must permit the entire body of artists (including the Greek) to judge what they can do lawfully.

—Americans have been thought to be sufficiently forgiving and tender-hearted toward those persons who have been so unfortunate as to be guilty of little peccadilloes that brought them within the reach of the law; but no American city has been quite so considerate as Paris. Nor was it to be expected; for Paris is the centre of civilization, and of course the gradual softening of manners that is characteristic of modern life would have its highest expression there. No languishing in deep, damp dungeons, lighted only by a faint ray from the top, where straw is the only bed and rats the only visitors—in fact, no stone walls, no bars, no locks even. The prisoner chooses his own prison—a sanitarium at Passy, for instance, or Dr. Beni-Barde's hydrotherapeutic establishment at Auteuil. Prince Napoleon chose the latter; so did Mlle. Marie Colombier, when the correctional police found fault with her stupid "Mémoires de Sarah Barnum." Certain prison reformers of the last century advocated solitary confinement as the sovereign remedy for crime, and sure to cure the most hardened patients. Perhaps Mlle. Colombier did not want to be reformed; certainly she did not choose to be solitary. She sent word to all her friends where she was to be, and invited them to come and see her. They came in flocks, to the disgust of the concierge. They were admitted to see the "prisoner," as a matter of course, till at last the other patients, provoked at this invasion of their quiet, protested, and compelled the doctor to send away Mlle. Colombier as soon as her term of detention was over, though she would gladly have stayed. If we should introduce some such system of imprisonment as this, it might save many of our bank cashiers the trouble of a journey to Canada at inclement seasons of the year.

—M. Salomon Reinach pays a tribute in the *Revue Critique* to his friend Charles Tissot, of whose "Géographie comparée de la province romaine d'Afrique" he has just published the first volume and is carrying the second through the press. Tissot was an enthusiast. In the eyes of the world, his work was as Consul at Corunna, at Salonica, at Adrianople, as Secretary of the Embassy at London, and then as Chargé d'Affaires there during the Franco-Prussian war, as Ambassador at Morocco, at Athens, and at London; and all this work he did well, as his constant advancement shows. But in his own eyes, setting aside his duty to his country, this was merely his pot-boiler; his real interest was in his discoveries in the north of Africa. He was an Africo-maniac. From 1853, when he made his first excursion in the Regency of Tunis, till

his death, July 2, 1884, fresh from correcting proofs of his first volume, all his spare time was given to explorations in that neighborhood or to study of the ancient authors who have treated of it, and the modern authors who have misunderstood these predecessors. According to M. Reinach, his zeal has been rewarded with success. Without pretending that everything is settled, or that what Tissot has affirmed can always be maintained, he declares that a very great advance has been made in the identification of ancient sites, and many long-established errors uprooted. Unfortunately, not the least interesting part of the projected work—a complete account of the Roman administration of the Proconsulate—remains in the state of detached notes utterly unfit for publication. M. Tissot had given special attention to the ruins of Carthage; M. Reinach has also made excavations there; and "it is pretty to see," as Pepys used to say, how the former despises the work of Dureau de la Malle, of Beulé, and of Nathan Davis, and how the latter tries not to speak disrespectfully of the theories of his friend. The disagreement of doctors is nothing to the divergencies of antiquarians. In the present case M. Reinach has already shown our readers on what secure basis his own identifications rest.

—It would be a work of supererogation to discuss at this late date the significance of Eckermann's "Conversations with Goethe." Yet it will not be amiss to call the attention of our readers to the latest edition, edited by Heinrich Düntzer (3 vols., Brockhaus, 1885). Although the sixth, the present edition is probably the first to be put into practical shape. The text, it is true, has been left as Eckermann wrote it. For this we have the guarantee of his son and literary executor, Karl Eckermann (see p. 5 of vol. i). Would that James Boswell's heirs had had like foresight! We should then have escaped Croker's dismal vagaries, bought too dearly even with Carlyle's analysis of Hawkins's entire and Piozzi's ginger-beer, and the other pennyswipes and alegar. But Eckermann, like every other biographer, needs elucidation, and this has been supplied by the veteran Goethe-scholar whose name alone is an assurance of accuracy. Düntzer's introduction, twenty-six pages, treats at length the peculiar relations between Goethe and Eckermann, clearing up many current misconceptions, and placing the biographer in a somewhat novel and more favorable light. The notes (at the end of each volume) explain personal and literary allusions very satisfactorily, so far as we have had occasion to test them. The index to all three volumes has been revised, and is complete with respect to names of persons, but its topic-references are scarcely full enough to justify the subtitle of *Sachregister*. We congratulate ourselves and all other lovers of Goethe upon this re-acquisition of Eckermann.

—Professor Bartoli, the literary historian, while examining in the Laurentian Library at Florence the Ashburnham MSS. lately restored to Italy through the efforts of Senator Villari, came upon a paper codex of the early part of the fifteenth century, containing the Canzoniere of Petrarch, together with various Rime by Dante, Fazio degli Uberti, and others. Turning over its leaves, he was suddenly struck by the canzone, *Spirto gentil*, having these words, written in red, above it: *Mandata a messer Busone da Gubbio essendo senatore di Roma*. The question of the person to whom this famous canzone was addressed has long been a burning one among the historians of Italian letters. The earliest commentators of the poet stated that it was written to a Senator of Rome, giving him no name, but from Vellutello (1525) down to De Sade (1764) writers on Petrarch generally agreed that the person was Cola di Ri-



enzo. De Sade was the first to assign this honor to Stephen Colonna. His theory was warmly supported, in several essays, by Salvatore Betti, and espoused by both Ginguéné and Cantù; but the majority of critics—Voltaire, Zefirino Re, Papencordt in his life of Rienzo, Bulwer Lytton in his romance, Reumont, Gregorovius, Fracasetti, and lastly D'Ancona—have adhered to the old hypothesis. The poet Carducci, however, who is the foremost of modern Petrarch commentators, in an argument marked by great erudition and subtlety, opposed the pretensions of both Rienzo and Colonna, and endeavored to prove that the poet had in his mind Stephen Colonna the younger, who, like his father, was Senator of Rome.

—The discovery made by Professor Bartoli makes it not improbable that the canzone was inspired by a man whom no one has hitherto indicated—namely, Busone of Gubbio—of an old Italian family, and, like Petrarch, a poet, a scholar, and an adherent of the Empire. He had been podestà of Arezzo, Petrarch's native town; was subsequently appointed by the Emperor, Lewis the Bavarian, to be his vicar or governor in Pisa, and in October, 1337, was elected Senator of Rome. It was in January of that year that Petrarch paid his first visit to Rome, and witnessed the condition of misery to which the city and the adjacent districts had been reduced by wars and misgovernment. After his departure Busone entered upon his office, and, if the new supposition be correct, his accession gave Petrarch the hope that a better era might now open for the city of his affection. In some respects, this latest candidate for the honor of Petrarch's praise and prayers answers, better than his predecessors, to the slight hints given in the canzone. He was an *cavalier*—which Rienzo was not—and is so styled in the dedication to him of Armanino's "Florita"; he was Senator of Rome at the time when the poet, fresh from a sight of Roman woes, was most likely to portray them vividly—which neither of the Colonnas then was. Petrarch, moreover, states that he never saw the person he addresses, which certainly is not true of the Tribune or the Colonnas, while there is not the slightest evidence that he ever met Busone. Professor Bartoli declares that he does not wish to be considered the special champion of the new claimant, but he calls attention to the fact that the testimony of a manuscript of so early a date is not to be hastily set aside, and that Busone—whose name was not so famous as to be still fresh in the minds of men after the lapse of two or three generations—answers perfectly, in his quality of Senator of Rome, to the simple indication given by Antonio da Tempo and Filelfo, the two oldest of Petrarch's commentators.

—Bismarck's seventieth birthday, on April 1st, will no doubt be celebrated with great enthusiasm, and cannot fail to occasion many additions to the already abundant Bismarck literature. Undismayed by the difficulty of saying anything new on a subject that has been so thoroughly exploited, Dr. H. Wiermann publishes a small volume, "Prince Bismarck, Seventy Years, 1815-1885" (Westermann). It is nothing more than a summary of the great events in which the German Chancellor has acted so conspicuous a part, and rehearses once more the most familiar anecdotes, from the smoking scene in the Federal Council at Frankfurt to the interviews with Favre and Thiers. The only new story is, that at a reception in February, 1881, in speaking of a letter of his which had been unjustifiably published, Bismarck said it reminded him of a statesman who, on being informed that one of his letters had been sold for thirty thalers, said that for one thaler he would gladly write thirty such letters. The political vagaries of the most recent years not having

been so exhaustively discussed as the other notable episodes of the Prince's career, afford more opportunity for saying something new; but on this subject the author is discreetly reticent. Perhaps he recognizes the great contrast between the brilliant achievements of Bismarck as a diplomatist and the failure of his domestic policy; a contrast which pointedly illustrates Matthew Arnold's remark that the talents of aristocracies are for wielding the force of their country against foreign Powers with energy, firmness, and dignity, but not for the work of making human life natural and rational. If we subscribe to this theory, and remember that by inheritance, training, and innate bent Bismarck is the typical aristocrat, his career ceases to be a puzzle and is seen to be a symmetrical, logical whole. The good he has done will live after him, and the evil will be interred with his bones. An almost comical feature of Dr. Wiermann's book is its rudimentary index, which kindly translates for us such phrases as "advocatus diaboli," "vogue la galère," "rocher de bronze," etc., and gives condensed biographical information concerning Coriolanus, Cromwell, and other distinguished persons.

—Some months ago, in the Berlin *Gegenwart*, the well-known philosopher Eduard von Hartmann called the attention of his countrymen to the alarming diminution of German interest in good books. He thinks that Germany's scientific preëminence is in danger; for although the Empire still produces more books than France and England together, yet there is a steady decline in the demand for solid works, whether in science or belles-lettres. Several causes are assigned for the growing evil: the diminished leisure of the educated class, causing distaste for any reading that requires concentration; increasing absorption in politics, which drives out of mind all other intellectual interests; increasingly frequent changes of residence in the cities, making the possession of a library burdensome; the increased wages of book compositors, with consequent rise in the price of books; the multiplication of cyclopedias and other books of reference, cheap editions of the classics, gift-books, novels of the season, etc., rendering it possible to make a show of being a lover of books and the owner of a library without really doing any reading. The final count in Hartmann's indictment, and the one to which he himself evidently attaches most importance, deserves to be given in his own words:

"The habit of reading journals and newspapers destroys the taste and the capacity for reading connected works, and already the time is drawing near for us Germans when the 'leading article' will be thought too heavy a tax upon the power of concentration, and will be hashed up into a mosaic of *entre-fillets*."

—The evils to which Hartmann calls attention are not a new discovery, nor are they confined to Germany. His description applies with depressing precision to this country, and doubtless explains some of the humiliating differences between the German, French or English, and the American book-markets. Every person who has need of the best scholarly literature on any subject will understand at once what we mean. In scientific publishing (using the word "scientific" in the broad sense of the German *wissenschaftlich*) we are simply not "in the race." Our publishers say they cannot afford to handle such books as are printed yearly in large numbers on the other side of the ocean. We have been disposed to believe, and there are certainly indications that a better day has already dawned upon this country, and that we shall henceforward move, slowly perhaps, but unfalteringly, toward the position occupied by Germany. And now comes Hartmann saying that Germany is moving rapidly

toward the position occupied by us. Everything in his article, and not least of all his prophecy of coming catastrophe to the German editorial, points to that conclusion. America rather than France is the true land of the *entre-filet*. One might think that this dark outlook is only a part of the general badness which a pessimist is professionally bound to see everywhere. But the true pessimist has no answer to the question: What are you going to do about it? Hartmann, however, has a remedy, or rather a number of them. He proposes heavy subsidies to city and State libraries, and a law compelling publishers to deliver books to these at bottom trade prices. As a means of dodging the middlemen he suggests a Book buyers' Association (*Literaturbezugverein*), or better a Book-distributing Bureau, to be managed as part of the postal service. His chief hope lies, however, in fighting the newspapers. The young must be taught that to read the journals of the day is to "sell their souls." Adults must learn to despise the newspapers, and speak contemptuously of them, or, looking upon the press as a necessary evil, they must favor the little papers and frown on the great ones. Finally, young men must have nothing to do with politics until they are over thirty years old.

#### JOHN WILSON CROKER.

*The Correspondence and Diaries of the Late Right Honorable John Wilson Croker, LL.D., F.R.S., Secretary to the Admiralty from 1829 to 1830. Edited by Louis J. Jennings, author of 'Republican Government in the United States.' Three vols. London: John Murray; New York: Charles Scribner's Sons.*

PEOPLE have long looked forward with considerable expectations to the publication of the Croker Papers, and now that Croker's "Correspondence and Diaries" are before the world, readers who have anticipated either historical revelations or interesting anecdotes will find themselves bitterly disappointed. Mr. Jennings's book contains no information which may not be obtained from sources which have long been open to every student. His hero, it is true, was the acquaintance or friend of many eminent persons; but Croker had none of the Boswellian faculty for portraying the character and conversation of his associates, and it is also probable that Croker, who was constantly lecturing every one, great or small, with whom he came in contact, and whose own conversation became at last, to judge from his letters, no better than monotonous variations on the well-worn theme of "I told you so," did not contrive to elicit much either of brilliancy or of confidence from the companions who had the misfortune or the advantage of his acquaintance. To "the Duke," indeed, Mr. Croker was compelled to listen, and the few anecdotes of interest to be found throughout Mr. Jennings's three volumes consist of stories about Wellington's career told by Wellington himself. The best remark of the Duke is one of which Croker does not appear to have appreciated the full bearing or humor. The vehement opponent of the Reform Bill wrote to Wellington explaining at length the grounds which made his seeking a seat in the reformed Parliament an impossibility. The reply ran thus: "I have received your letter. I am very sorry that you do not intend to be again elected to serve in Parliament. I cannot conceive for what reason." The words underlined are an inimitable example of the terseness with which the Duke exposed the follies of a friend and admirer. Croker treasured up the letter; he liked to be snubbed by the Duke.

The letter, and the way in which Croker took it, curiously illustrate a side of Croker's character which must be appreciated if we are to do

justice either to Croker himself or to Croker's enemies. Never was a man better hated, and one cause, at least, for the abhorrence which Croker excited in men of genius such as Macaulay, Thackeray, or Disraeli, was his brutal toughness and obtuseness. He was cursed or blessed with the hardest and coarsest nature which ever fell to a man who obtained any eminence in literature. We do not wish to dwell on what Mr. Trevelyan well describes as the "unsavory portions of that gentleman's private life." One would fain believe that the correspondent of Scott, the adviser of Peel, and the friend of Wellington was not the base and unscrupulous sycophant whom Mr. Disraeli has painted under the name of Rigby. But to any one who carefully studies Mr. Jennings's own account of the relations between his hero and Lord Hertford, one thing is clear—no impartial critic can ever, as regards the gravest charge against Croker, give a more favorable verdict than "not proven"; and even this modified form of acquittal can be gained only by an apologist who frankly admits the moral coarseness or want of delicacy which, perhaps, explains conduct that, in any person endowed with the ordinary sense of what is becoming and of good report, would argue the most disgraceful turpitude. We can just believe that Mr. Croker's relation to Lord Hertford was not disgraceful, because we are fully convinced that he had not the capacity to perceive all the discredit which must rest on any man of average respectability who thrust himself into Lord Hertford's service, and took thousands of pounds as a legatee under Lord Hertford's will. There is no one among Croker's assailants who could, without a blush, have appeared, as did Croker, in the witness-box to prosecute Lord Hertford's courier. And it is, we think, more than possible that Disraeli and Macaulay mistook abnormal coarseness of feeling for disgusting baseness of conduct.

The permanent interest of Croker's letters and diaries lies in circumstances independent of the rumors or slanders which still cast a dubious hue over his private character. Croker was a moral and political survival. He died in 1857; he was intimately known to many men still living, and was seen and spoken to by persons who are now not far past middle age, but he remained essentially the man of 1800. Amid a changing world, in the age of Cobden, of Bright, and of Louis Napoleon, he retained unaltered the sentiments natural to a staunch Tory official who remembered Pitt, and who had served under Perceval and Liverpool. He was the incarnation of official Toryism as it flourished during the Great War and the Regency. Some gift or defect of nature made his mind armor-proof against influences which moulded and transformed the policy, if not the character, of Peel, and which told upon the conduct of the Iron Duke himself. In Croker one can see, not indeed the heroism—for of everything heroic he was absolutely devoid—but the strength and the virtues, no less than the weaknesses and the faults, of the Tories who resisted with unequal success the attacks of Napoleonic France and the advance of social and political reform. It is well worth while to take Croker as the representative of a class, and to note his typical excellences and his typical faults, as far as may be, with equal impartiality.

The Toryism of Croker was something much more than a political doctrine. It may almost be described as a political, a social, and a religious faith. To men who remembered the Reign of Terror, and who saw it much in the light in which it is again revealed for the present age by Taine, the Revolution was little else than the outburst of the powers of hell, and Napoleon was the devil who ruled the new pandemonium. Grant, as every rational person now must, that this view of a world-wide movement was partial

and distorted; grant, as, even with the pages of Lanfrey before them, most calm judges will concede, that Napoleon, and still more the work of Napoleon, presented a good as well as a bad side, yet the fact remains that the Tories of the Revolutionary and the Napoleonic era did in very truth regard the Revolution as the work of the devil, and had far more cause for so regarding it than a generation who know the "Terror" only as a matter of history are apt to think. The conviction, further—which was ultimately held by Whigs like Lord John Russell and Sydney Smith as firmly as by Tories like Perceval or Liverpool—that French aggression would, unless resisted, be fatal to the national independence of England, and in fact menaced the independence of every state throughout Europe, gave to the Toryism which flourished during the Great War, not only an impress of patriotism, but a good deal of sympathy (in the case, at any rate, of Spain and Germany) with what a later generation called "the cause of nationalities." Under the inspiration of political zeal and patriotic fervor, Croker, and hundreds better or worse than he, did a great work. They manned the ship of state, and carried it through a storm which wrecked vessels as noble and apparently as strong as that which carried the fortunes of England.

The best trait about Croker was his strenuous work at the Admiralty. That he got fair day's wages for the day's labors may well be admitted; but it must also be borne in mind that he threw his whole heart into the task before him, and gave to the country a kind of unremitting toil which cannot be bought for mere money. What is true of Croker was, we may be sure, equally true of hundreds whose names are now forgotten. A party which holds power for nearly half a century is certain, in Anglo-Saxon countries at least, to become corrupted by its own success. But it is not in virtue, but in spite, of villainess and corruption that a great party controls for more than a generation the destinies of a great state. It were curious to trace the mode in which "character," which has always told for more in England than talent, has passed at different times from one party to another. For our present purpose it is enough to note that between 1784 and 1820 the Tories possessed a repute for moral worth which did not belong to their opponents. There were hundreds of Tories whose public and private character did not deserve any special respect; there were scores of men among the Whigs who represented the highest moral feeling of their age. But no candid reader of history can deny that during the earlier part of the century the Tories were, on the whole, the moral and religious party. Most good men were Tories, and this fact gave currency to the utterly erroneous notion that all Tories were good men, and that persons who were not Tories were bad men. This was the undoubted creed of Croker and of far better men than Croker, such as Walter Scott. And one cannot doubt that the identification of political prejudices or principles with the cause of morality did lend to the Tory party an amount of force and of earnestness which both caused, and, within certain limits, justified, the success and triumph of Toryism.

With parties, however, as with men, their strength is also their weakness. Toryism displayed the bigotry, narrowness, and blindness no less than the fervor of a religious creed. The tacit assumption that a Tory was a good man, accounts for the tolerance or favor with which Scott and Peel regarded Croker. That any one endowed with Scott's nobility of nature could have failed to be shocked by the mean side of Croker's character, and the odiousness of what one may call Crokerism, is inexplicable, unless one allows for the fact that Croker was, in Scott's eyes, a soldier fighting manfully for the

cause of virtue; and according to a Tory standard, Croker was, it must be admitted, the staunchest of fighters. He never missed giving a blow, fair or unfair, at a Whig; he never, like Lyndhurst, dallied, to say the least, with Liberalism; he never, like Canning, was carried away from his Tory standing-point by rhetorical enthusiasm for freedom; he never, like Peel, was shaken by the force of argument; he never, like Wellington, acknowledged the necessity of yielding to the logic of facts. He was one of those blind leaders of the blind who step out with all the boldness of a guide gifted with the clearest foresight, who, when kept by wiser heads from irreparable disaster, turn round and swear at the friends by whom they are saved, and who, when they and their followers fall into a ditch, lay the blame of their mishap on everything except their own blindness. Croker, who never failed to mistake the patent signs of the time, asseverated with such good faith the dogma of his own infallibility that he persuaded a generation of Tories to believe that he never was wrong. Yet every fact showed him to be gifted with neither insight nor foresight. He knew Peel with intimacy for years; he had watched him closely and had studied every turn of Sir Robert's sinuous, not to say tortuous career. He would, one would have thought, have soon perceived that the essential difference between his own and Peel's views of statesmanship must at last lead Peel away from the path of rigid Toryism. Yet Croker, at a time when every Liberal perceived that Peel was tending, and rapidly tending, toward free trade, made himself the political surety for the Prime Minister's steadfast adherence to protection. Let us grant, as we are afraid must be granted, that Croker was the dupe of his hero, and concede that Sir Robert set an example of political casuistry which has done so much harm to the public life of England as to constitute an immense set-off to the services which he rendered to the country. But when every concession is made, Croker's tremendous blunder can be explained only by the fact that Croker was, as a judge of character, the dullest of men.

But persons who cannot discern traits of individual genius, may occasionally be good judges as to the general course of politics. Such, to take a notorious instance, was Burke. We doubt whether he ever estimated a friend or a foe with fairness; but as regards events, he was endowed with a gift which amounted to prophetic foresight. Not so Croker. His reputation for statesmanship was staked on his judgment of the Reform Bill. By that test his credit must stand or fall. Now, it is a simple matter of history that at every stage of the reform movement Croker's judgment was at fault. He maintained in 1831 that there was no genuine demand for reform, and that the cry was created by the intrigues of the Whigs. We now know, by every kind of evidence by which an historical fact can be proved, that the popular feeling in favor of reform was so strong that lengthened resistance would have produced revolution. Reform would, he was convinced, be itself the immediate precursor of revolutionary change.

"If it be carried," he writes (5th April, 1831), "England no doubt may be still great and happy, but it would be under a *different* form of constitution and administration from that which has raised her to her present greatness and happiness: no king, no lords, no inequalities in the social system: all will be levelled to the plane of the petty shopkeepers and small farmers; this perhaps not without bloodshed, but certainly by confiscations and persecutions. 'Tis inevitable, and this is to be perpetrated by a set of men, like Lambton and Johnny Russell, whom a club in Regent Street would not trust with the management of their concerns."

More than half a century has given the lie to



Mr. Croker's predictions. To conceal this fact by saying, with Mr. Jennings, that Croker "exaggerated the immediate effect which the bill would produce," is simply to mislead students. Croker and Croker's friends did not assert that there was a gradual tendency in the course of events to produce democratic institutions, but confidently asserted a totally different thing—namely, that reform was the harbinger of immediate revolution. On the truth of this prediction the wisdom of the Tory guide and his followers depends. The prediction has been absolutely falsified by events. The only honest course to pursue is to grant that Croker and those who believed in Croker totally mistook the signs of the time. Croker himself avoided all necessity for admitting that he was in the wrong, by a very singular course of action. The reformed Parliament was, according to his predictions, to turn out an assembly of Jacobins and levellers, in which a good man like Croker could find no room. Events did not verify his prophecies, but Croker acted as if his forebodings had turned out true. He withdrew from the House, which, if good enough for Peel and Wellington, was no fit place for the prophet of Toryism. The reign of revolutionists was to commence, and since the era of lawless violence in fact never dawned, Croker consoled his self-love by detecting Jacobinism at least as late as 1852 in some proposal made by that most respectable of country squires, the late Mr. Henley. His political career ended, in truth, with the passing of the Reform Bill, and from that time he employed his critical energy in spheres for which it was far less well suited than for the rough-and-ready, not to say brutal, party contests which marked the reign of George IV. and his successor.

Mr. Croker as a literary critic is only less out of place than Mr. Croker as a writer on matters which concern the Church and, to a certain extent, religion itself. One can in a measure pardon the political pugilist for taking a part in ecclesiastical controversy when one finds that Samuel Wilberforce (who, by the way, found old Lord Lyndhurst an agreeable and impressive supporter of orthodoxy) used to correspond with Croker on Tractarianism, on Newman's sermons, on the Hampden controversy. No doubt the Bishop addressed himself rather to the editor or guide of the *Quarterly Review* than to the hardened political controversialist. Still, the friendly communication between the two men on matters of religion is not a very pleasant trait in the character either of Wilberforce or of his correspondent. Here, however, we touch upon one of the points on which Croker was, as on so many others, the representative of his party. The Tories to whom he belonged were, as part of their political creed, guardians and protectors of the Church. They stood toward the Church of England much as French Conservatives now stand toward Roman Catholicism; they looked upon religion (when it assumed a respectable form) as an ally of the State, and treated the cause of the Church as part of the general cause of social order. To suppose that men like Croker professed to be religious men in the sense in which the term might be applied to Newman, or Maurice, or Arnold, or Zachary Macaulay, would be to impute to Croker and his associates a kind of hypocrisy of which he was entirely guiltless. But unfortunately Croker, who admired George the Fourth, and who served Lord Hertford, was, like other men of his type, the official defender, so to speak, of religion and of the Establishment. This was, take it all in all, the worst side of the Toryism which flourished during the Regency. It was this official connection with religion which roused the moral indignation of men who themselves made no pretension to fervent religious convictions, but who hated cant. "I might add," says

Macaulay with reference to Croker, "a hundred other charges. These are things done by a Privy Councillor, by a man who has a pension from the country of £2,000 a year, by a man who affects to be a champion of order and religion." When we weigh the full meaning of this language we can well understand why, in 1830, all that was youthful and generous in the spirit of England condemned ruthlessly the whole régime of which Croker was the representative.

#### AN ARCHEOLOGIST IN MEXICO.

*Report of an Archaeological Tour in Mexico in 1881.* [No. II. of the American Series of the Papers of the Archaeological Institute of America.] By A. F. Bandelier. Boston: Cupples, Upham & Co. 1884. 8vo, pp. 326, with maps and illustrations.

IN the present volume Mr. Bandelier has given us the results of a trip which he made to Mexico in 1881, under the auspices of the Archaeological Institute of America. His stay was but short, lasting only a few months, and was chiefly passed at Cholula, where he devoted himself to a study of its antiquities and of the manners and customs of the Indians who still live in that neighborhood. He seems, also, to have found time for a brief visit to Mitla and the other ruined pueblos in that vicinity, which are described at some length; and under the heading of "Notes about the City of Mexico," he gives an account of several of the idols and other carved stones which have been discovered in that city, and which have, we trust, found a permanent resting-place in the National Museum of the country.

Although his visit was made in the interests of archaeology, Mr. Bandelier did not go, as do so many of our "practical" explorers, spade in hand on a wild hunt after curiosities, but rather as a trained and careful observer, whose object it was to see these remains precisely as they are, and to interpret, as far as may be, the story which they have to tell. Accordingly, he has produced a work which, while it does not startle us with accounts of the discoveries of artistic treasures, does contain a very satisfactory description of the present condition of these ruins, with pertinent suggestions as to their origin and use, based upon a thorough knowledge of the mode of life and of the artistic and industrial development of the tribes that dwelt in Mexico at the time of the Conquest. In adopting this method of investigation, Mr. Bandelier is but following the plan which he found so effective in other fields, and which, we are satisfied, is the only one that promises certain and durable results. Obviously we can never know whether a piece of work, be it a so-called palace, a statue, or a simple earthen pot, was executed by the ancient Mexicans, unless we first know whether they had arrived at that stage of progress in which it was possible for them to build houses, carve statues, or manufacture pottery; and this knowledge, we may observe, is only to be attained by a careful study of trustworthy records; or, possibly, in a few instances in which aboriginal customs and industries have survived the contact with a higher civilization, it may be gained by an investigation into the condition of the tribes themselves. Be this as it may, there can be no doubt that it is essential to the formation of a correct opinion, as it not only acts as a check upon wild theories and speculations, but furnishes us with a basis of known facts from which, by a safe logical process, we may hope to reach the unknown.

This is the method of the school of which Mr. Bandelier is an acknowledged leader, and, applying it to these remains, it has led him to the conclusion that they do not indicate a higher civilization than that which the natives of Mexico, at

the time of the Conquest, are known to have reached. Thus, for instance, in regard to sculptures like the statue of Huitzilopochtli and the Stone of the Sun, formerly known as the Calendar Stone, which our author thinks may have been the one described by Duran as that on which prisoners were made to fight, we are told that while the art displayed was "considerably above that of the Northern Village-Indians, it is still not superior to the remarkable carvings on ivory and wood of the tribes of the Northwest Coast, and often bears a marked resemblance to them." So, too, in reference to the large buildings in the valley of Tlaxcala. Instead of the ruined palaces of which we have heard so often, our author sees nothing but the remains of communal houses in which the sexes found shelter in different apartments; and he tells us that life in these communities "differed from the communal life of the Indians in other regions only by the exigencies of another climate and of varying natural resources." As to the pyramid, or, as he prefers to call it, the mound of Cholula, he thinks that it may have been the site of a fortified pueblo, its topmost point a centre of worship, and the "plateaux and aprons around it covered with houses, possibly of large size, like those of Uxmal and Palenqué, or on a scale intermediate between them and the communal dwellings of Pecos and many other places in New Mexico." This is certainly a pregnant suggestion, and in the picture which it presents of the pueblo as restored, we are forcibly reminded of the account given by La Vega of the origin and use of the truncated mounds of our own Gulf States. Exactly who were the builders of this immense work is unknown, and our author wisely declines to speculate on the subject. He is very positive, however, that it could not have been the Nahuatl tribes found here by Cortes, though there is no reason why they may not have destroyed it, for "destroyed" it seems to have been. At least this is the testimony of tradition, and it is borne out by the fact that, when the Spaniards first arrived, it was already deserted save and except the summit; and this was occupied not by the shrine of Quetzalcoatl, the tutelary god of Cholula, but by the "medicine lodge" of Nine Rain, an inferior deity, whose cult "was practised in sight of the volcanoes from which Quetzalcoatl," who presided over the winds, "was supposed to carry the beneficial moisture over the parched and arid plain."

Thus far we have confined ourselves to the archaeological results of this tour, though it is not in this part of the work that our author is seen to the best advantage. His forte, if we may be allowed the suggestion, is in ethnology, and those of us who are familiar with his former publications will find much in the present volume to remind us of the method of critical research of which he has elsewhere made such effective use. Especially is this true of that part of the "Reconnaissance into Mexico" and of so much of the "Studies about Cholula" as refer to the present condition of the native tribes. Of them he has evidently made a very close study; and after eliminating, as far as practicable, everything that savors of European influence, he finds a phase of civilization that harmonizes well with the pictures which the early authors have left us of the ancient Mexicans. Nor does he stop here, for, though he does not expressly say so, yet, to any one who will read between the lines, it is very evident that he does not intend to limit the assertion as to this uniformity of development to the early Mexican tribes when compared one with another, but that he is quite ready to admit it as between them and the Indians east of the Mississippi, especially those belonging to the Iroquois confederacy. Differences may and must have existed between them in some of their cus-

toms, their industries, and perhaps in their mode of worship or their social organization; but these are not probably any greater than can be found to-day in different sections of our own country, and hence they are not believed to indicate the existence of different phases of civilization. This is but one of the inferences that may be drawn from Mr. Bandelier's premises, and, however opposed it may be to the usually received opinion, it is believed to be as true in fact as it is simple and satisfactory in theory.

There are many other matters in these suggestive pages to which we would gladly call attention did time and space permit. As it is, we can only refer approvingly to the statement that "the aboriginal population of Mexico has increased within the past three hundred and sixty years," the Spanish Conquest having resulted in a displacement rather than in a diminution of their numbers. We may also add that there is abundant food for thought in the assertion that "as soon as the commotion of the Conquest was over, the men of the 'sword and gown' were gradually supplanted by tillers of the soil and by mechanics," who, we are told, "rapidly prospered." This will be news to many of our readers, though we do not see how it can be doubted in the face of facts and figures. The truth is, that we have never gone into this matter very critically, for the reason that, whenever it was necessary to approach the subject, we have been so busy covering up our own sins by abusing what a recent writer calls "the diabolical atrocities" of the Spaniards, as to leave but little time for anything else. Horrible enough these undoubtedly were, though it is probable that in many instances the accounts are too highly colored. But even if they are not, and the statements as to the destruction wrought by the Spaniards are literally true, it would ill become us to single them out for condemnation, since there is not an "atrocious" attributed to them, from the deliberate murder of prisoners down to the deportation and enslavement of captives, that does not find a parallel in the first hundred years of our own history. Human nature in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries was probably much the same everywhere just as it is to-day; and it would be as reasonable to expect to gather grapes of thorns and figs of thistles as it would to find that the Spanish conquerors, or the English colonists, had been actuated by a spirit of justice and humanity in their treatment of the Indians.

*A Greek Grammar for Schools and Colleges.*  
By James Hadley, late Professor in Yale College.  
Revised, and in part rewritten, by Frederic De Forest Allen, Professor in Harvard College.  
D. Appleton & Co. 1884.

A PROFESSOR of physiology, not long ago, seeking advice about the purchase of a Greek lexicon for his son, told his friend that he had always supposed the Greek language to be a thing as fixed and settled as anything could be in this world, but that it now appeared the changes and advances in Greek studies were almost as great and constant as in modern physiology. The comparison suggested is not without point. It may, we suppose, be assumed that the physical constitution of man has undergone no changes of moment since the scientific study of physiology began. But advances have been made in that study, and further advances are to be expected. Even so with Greek studies. Probably a good many classical teachers would wish to see truth in the saying of another professor—one of the shining lights of one of our great centres of enlightenment: "With Greek it is different; you either know it, or you don't know it; and if you know it, that is all there is to it." But, for the plagues of their indolence, there are always

some men who will study; and even the most modest schoolmaster is called upon from time to time to accept a revision of the familiar statements.

Hadley's 'Greek Grammar' has been well known and widely used for almost a quarter of a century; and, in spite of all that has come and gone, the appearance of such a book in a new edition better adapted to present needs is an event of some importance to a great many people. Scholars should be grateful to Professor Allen for the care and tact and wise moderation with which he has used the results of the eager and fruitful studies of the last decades. The traces of learned reconsideration appear throughout the book, and the changes are very numerous and important, but there is no sign of a hankering for mere novelty. In his preface Professor Allen says, with reference to the explanations of the origins of inflectional forms:

"I hope no one will suppose that this book professes to embody the latest results of comparative grammar. These results are at present partly in a very chaotic condition, partly very ill suited to be set before a learner. Much that in Professor Hadley's time was thought certain has been entirely upset or become very doubtful, and in many cases nothing positive has taken its place. All that can be demanded of a school-grammar in this respect is that its classifications and analyses shall not be at variance with well-established facts of genesis. I have occasionally gone a trifle further than Professor Hadley in these historical statements; but oftener, I think, have retrenched or modified explanations which he gave, and have been entirely content to leave much unexplained."

This might almost seem to an impatient critic to be the language of an extreme conservatism. But the true interpretation is, that the only purpose to which scientific grammar is to be applied in this book is the practical purpose of helping learners to a practical command of the language. This purpose G. Curtius, in his efforts for reform in the teaching of Greek grammar, kept steadily and chiefly in view. A schoolboy has a right to the simplest and most rational statements possible in the existing state of knowledge; he has also the right to be left undisturbed by discussions which, however important in themselves, can only burden and delay him while striving for his immediate goal. On this point the fair-minded critic must be disarmed when he examines such statements as those of pp. 8-9 upon "Strong and Weak Root-Vowels" (ἀείνω, λέλοιπα, ἔλπιον), a fine specimen of judicious innovation.

More important, and perhaps a trifle more venturesome, is the experiment of presenting to schoolboys the present-stems of verbs in such forms as λέγ<sup>ο</sup>ε. We are glad to see this experiment tried. It is tried here with skill, and we can think of no reason for doubting its entire success. In the classification of verbs the changes are considerable. Seven classes are given in place of the old nine. We should hesitate about adopting the sharp distinction made between the "variable-vowel" class and the "strong-vowel" class. Surely there is no fundamental difference of formation between λέγω and λείπω; both have the "variable vowel," and both have the "strong vowel." We should hesitate also to classify the reduplicated verbs, of which the "weak vowel" is characteristic, with λέγω and its kind. By the way, the note about the reduplicated verbs is rather misleading: "In γίγνομαι and ἵσχω the present has the reduplication." But this is made right in the catalogue of verbs (p. 157), so that the danger of mistake is perhaps slight. The doubts we express here, however, are intended rather to indicate the difficulty of the subject than by way of finding fault with Professor Allen's handling of it. In the paradigms a good example of regard for genuine Attic words and forms has been set. Here so much has been done that we almost fear some few teachers may la-

ment the loss of old familiar errors. But it was high time they should be discarded, and it is hardly likely that any scholar competent to judge will think Professor Allen has gone too far. We could have wished to see the form βασιλῆς, which is shoved aside into a note, treated with more respect, but that is a trifle.

Touching the statements of syntax, it would, of course, be possible to make endless suggestions; but as no teacher can teach much syntax unless he knows some himself independently of his class-book, a reviewer can hardly do anything more profitable than to call attention to the general merit of the presentation as a whole. Still, at the risk of seeming to propose mere subjective views of a possible further perfection, we shall offer a few notes. In the treatment of case relations we could wish more distinct adherence to some probable theory of the origins of usage, even though the theory were still open to debate, as any theory of this most difficult subject must be. We are sure that a practical gain could be made in this way. We should like to see a sharper sundering of the instrumental and locative from the true dative constructions, and a clear recognition of the fact that the true dative is, in Greek, a personal case. And we should like to see a similar thing done for the genitive. Why should it not be a help to a boy who knows Latin to be taught to regard the genitive of comparison as an *ablative* genitive? By the way, it is at least a doubtful (and hardly helpful) theory which treats καλλίστος τῶν ἄλλων as an inexact expression, or which recognizes a partitive genitive in μένος τῶν ἄλλων. In the syntax of the verb, ample use has been made of Professor Goodwin's well-known statements, and this is a decided gain. It would have been well, we think, to give more heed to certain papers by Professor Gildersleeve published in the Transactions of the Philological Association and in the *American Journal of Philology*. For example, the treatment of conditions expressed by εἰ with the future indicative and the treatment of πρὶν might, after a careful weighing of those papers, have been made less curt and perhaps somewhat more exact. Among the examples of usage quoted there are, of course, not many of a kind directly calculated to provoke dissent. Now and then it might be a good joke upon puzzled schoolmasters if the book could be sent out with this or that statement unaltered and a perfectly legitimate substitute for the example. Perhaps a few cases may occur where the weary teacher, pinning all his faith upon his book, might find it hard to escape from a quick-witted tormentor quoting the example given. Thus, in section 90, where "the supposition relates to the future, but no expectation of its being realized is implied," one of the examples (and a perfectly typical example of the construction under discussion) is this: εἰ τις πεκτημένος εἴη πλοῦτον, χρῆτο δὲ αὐτῷ μὴ, δρ' ἂν εὐκαίμωνος. Why should not a boy say that when anybody conceives a case of that kind he not only has an expectation, but an absolute certainty in his mind—that the conception has been realized in the past, and is realized in the present, and will be realized in the future? Shall the teacher take refuge in the saving words "is implied"? He may manage to do so if he knows how, but there is danger the boy may learn to think the whole business a little uncanny. In our judgment, the statement that "no expectation is implied" in sentences of this kind is at least no better warranted than it would be to say that no futurity is implied. It would be worth the while of some investigator of syntax to count the cases in which a simple present or past condition or a "general" condition could be substituted for the form under discussion without serious disturbance of sense. To complete his experiment, he should try to see how often he could make the same substitution,



with the same degree of harmlessness, in conditional sentences having the future indicative in apodosis. Possibly he might then reach the conclusion that the difference between the two forms in respect to futurity is even more decidedly characteristic than that in respect to "expectation." In the example quoted, the conception seems to us to have presented itself to the speaker's mind without definite reference to any one of the spheres of time. But, as we have already hinted, dissent in occasional details is not a damaging form of criticism upon such a performance. It would serve no purpose to enumerate felicities of the revision in this part of the work; a single specimen is the remark (sec. 683, b) that "the real office of the reflexives is to emphasize the identity of the person with some one named in the sentence."

The chapter upon versification has been both extended and simplified. In its present form it is all that so brief a treatment of so large a subject can be. Another gain is the doubling of the matter given in the chapter on word-formation. It is greatly to be wished that all teachers might be brought to see how much time may be saved by giving a good deal of time to this subject. We think the book as it has left Professor Allen's hands richly deserves to retain all its old friends and to win new ones.

*On Tuscan Hills and Venetian Waters.* By Linda Villari. Illustrated by Mrs. Arthur Lemon. London: T. Fisher Unwin.

THE charm of Italian life is as inexhaustible as inexplicable, and they who have enjoyed it for years are those who find its magic most irresistible and its ramifications most complex. Is it in the sun and the sky; the olive orchards and stone-pines, with their dreamy rest and their quaint majesty; the impress—the all-pervading impress—of human thought and sentiment on the hills and valleys; the serenity of a civilization which has no disquiet for further progress—or is it all these together and heightened by associations of a golden antiquity, that so enchant the foreigner who has once come under the charm? They who fly from Venice to Palermo, see all that Murray and Baedeker prescribe, and even as much more as ingenious and enterprising Yankeeedom can discover with all its prying, still know little of Italy—less than one who will become domiciled in thought and habit in a single province. All the world knows the history of Rawdon Brown, who went to Venice in search of the tomb of an historical personage, and found there his own, unwilling, like many others, again to throw off the enchantment (Circean only in its force) which bound him there. And if Venice, with its drawbacks of fogs and east wind, the nauseous odors of its canals and their monotony, is so entrancing, how much more Florence, with its blue crown of hills and its infinite valley recesses, and the unbroken shell in which the Renaissance grew and died, still standing in its delusive perfection. Could human progress so far penetrate the Tuscan hills as to make the municipalities understand sanitation, and chase away the malaria which broods in the drainage and cesspools of the cities, Tuscany would become the sanitarium and paradise of the intellectual life.

No wonder that when one lives in the city of Dante and Boccaccio one takes to bookmaking, or, as the common saying is there, that every foreigner who comes takes to painting or to literature! Every hill and villa and stone-pine has a story, and every opening in the surrounding hills leads to fields of pictures with the accessories all ready. And for an English woman like Signora Villari, sharer of the labors of her illustrious husband, not to make books would be inexplicable. The service we outsiders must

demand—that of expert exploration of what, among all the attractions of the country, has not yet become hackneyed and guide-book matter—is what she renders us in 'Tuscan Hills.' Her description of Barga is the history of a nook in the Apennines whose existence is a summary of the history of Italy in the middle ages, and her sojourn in the Abetone (a resort scarcely known yet to foreigners) will be found of positive utility to those who like Italian life, and find the summers of the peninsula unbearable from the heat and foul smells of the cities. An example taken almost at random will show the perceptive and descriptive powers given to her work by Signora Villari:

"Then there is a delightful bullock track winding through the recesses of the forest to the lower crags of the Libro Aperto—the double peak on which winter snows rest in the semblance of the page of a half-opened book. From this track one can branch off into hidden glades, where the secret of the woods is revealed to the solitary wanderer. The incommunicable trees begin to persuade us to live with them and quit our life of solemn trifles. Looking out from the dense shade of the firs, the strong summer sunlight transforms the clusters on the crest of steep banks into screens of gleaming emeralds. On all sides is a fascinating dance of light and shade—now of pure white sunshine, and then, toward evening, showers of gold fall on the lichened trunks. The air is full of bird voices, and their songs are accompanied by the buzz of innumerable unseen insects. But there come moments of utter stillness, when all nature seems hushed to sleep; then suddenly the spell is broken—birds and insects awake; there are mysterious cracklings and rustlings all about you; the woodpeckers tap more noisily than before; a brown or black squirrel darts up a tree close beside you and frisks from branch to branch; a family of tomits flutters down in short playful flights, and you fancy the mother bird is peeping from the nest overhead to superintend the children's sports. Suddenly, at touch of wind or wing, a shower of fir needles rains down, and the timid tomits disappear."

With Venice Signora Villari is less familiar, though still an habitué, and some of her driftings about the lagoons will have novelty to most visitors to the city. But why should she adopt the unfounded attribution by Ruskin of the juvenile pictures of St. Albise to Carpaccio? She had better authority to consult on that matter than Ruskin, and ought to know that in the opinion of the best judges of Italian art in Italy (among others C. F. Murray, *facile princeps* of them) the so-called Carpaccios are simply blundering imitations by a later painter. What, however, is refreshing throughout the book is that, unlike most of the *litterati* of the Florentine school, the author does not pretend to be an art oracle, and launch out into disquisition in what is generally regarded by them as no-man's-land, and like a blank sheet of paper fit for anybody's scrawling—the philosophy of art and the merits of the Renaissance. If now and then she is led, in the way of writers of padding articles, to diffuseness and inflated diction, she at least never talks of what she knows nothing about.

*The Life of Abraham Lincoln.* By Isaac N. Arnold. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Company, 1885.

MR. ARNOLD was an almost life-long friend of Lincoln in his own home; and when the war came, he went to Congress, and while there saw the President with the frequency and intimacy natural to old acquaintances. He desired to write down his impressions of the great man he had known so well, and in this large volume he has done so. Unfortunately, he was not content to confine himself to the facts of his own knowledge, out of which he might perhaps have made a personal biography of Lincoln, or have contributed something to it; his imagination was impressed by the great work Lincoln did, and the way of his doing it, rather than by the personal qualities that made up the

strong, patient, and temperate character of his hero. Consequently, his 'Life of Abraham Lincoln' is a history of the public affairs in which Lincoln bore a hand in his early career, and of the great events both civil and military of the Rebellion; it is a history of Lincoln's political life almost exclusively.

Biography which rests on the theory that a man is what he does has long been out of fashion, and any one used to modern methods will recognize at once the incompleteness of Mr. Arnold's presentation of Lincoln. In a general and rather discursive manner he writes a history of events, with little regard to the doubtfulness of details, and thus traverses ground already gleaned to the last straw of the stubble. Hence the contents of this book for the most part merely duplicate what may be read in hundreds of others. The portion which deals with Lincoln's personality is, on the other hand, very small, and the new material meagre—hardly more, in fact, than Mr. Arnold's own impression of his friend. One would have expected, not perhaps new anecdote, but some account of how Lincoln's character expressed itself in private life, in the little matters of his own domestic or friendly or business circles, in which the quality of his nature must have shown itself as frequently as in the large sphere of his national relations; but of such fresh knowledge there is nothing exact and definite. Upon this friend, it would seem, Lincoln made the same impression as upon many others—that is, an essentially public impression, as of a resolute, faithful, God-trusting patriot, a statesman wise through the temper of his mind, a man born for his deed. But as a man apart from his task, he made, so far as this book shows, no distinctive impression at all. The volume is consequently disappointing; it fails through being too ambitious. It is, too, a provincial book; it sets Lincoln not by himself, but merely as one of a group of extraordinary men—the head of it, truly, but still not dissociated from it. There is thus a certain lack of perspective. Lincoln himself seems lessened by the fact that Mr. Arnold takes so many members of the Illinois bar into the same horizon. They were strong men, but their strength was of a different kind; it led to eminence, forensic or intellectual or political, but eminence is a position far below greatness, and Lincoln, though he included their might in his powers, was lifted to his place in both the memory and the imagination of mankind by other qualities than they were noted for. To put it briefly, Mr. Arnold sees in Lincoln too much the Illinois man, and recognizes scarcely at all his national character as "the first American." It is a great pity, or else a great good fortune, that no fine observer with power of moral interpretation seems to have known Lincoln. Mr. Arnold's book does nothing to supply the want. Lincoln was "one of Plutarch's men," we know, but, must we, too, wait for a Roman decadence before our Plutarch shall be born?

*Old St. Augustine: A Story of Three Centuries.* By Charles B. Reynolds. St. Augustine: E. H. Reynolds.

It is hardly necessary to have seen the quaint old town of which Mr. Reynolds writes, to feel interested in his narrative of its "changing fortunes"—"unstable as the shifting sands of its harbor bar." He tells us graphically of its founding in 1565 by the Spanish bigot Menendez, who enforced his claims to Florida by that terrible slaughter of French Huguenots which gave name to Matanzas inlet. Many were the vicissitudes of massacre, sack, conflagration, and siege, to which different foes, the Frenchman, the Englishman, the Indian, the Boucanier (Buccaneer), subjected St. Augustine before it was ceded to Eng.

land in 1763. During our Revolutionary War it was loyal to the British crown, but the enterprising Englishmen who had infused new vigor into it received a poor reward for their loyalty, when its retrocession to Spain in 1783 compelled them to seek other homes. From that date St. Augustine remained in Spanish hands until Florida passed into the possession of the United States in 1821. All these changes are exhibited by our author in a series of well-selected historic pictures, on which he has succeeded in throwing a strong light. Various characters of greater or less note enliven his pages, from Admiral Sir Francis Drake to Coacoochee and Osceola, heroes

of the Seminole war. The story of Fort Marion—of the first building of San Juan de Pinos, of its destruction, its rebuilding, its resistance as San Marco to obstinate siege, its rechristening as Fort Marion—is an interesting one.

The book is graced by various illustrations, some being copies of drawings made three centuries ago, and the remainder mostly artotypes of old buildings, the Cathedral, City Gate, Fort Marion, etc. A list of dates and a full index add to the value of the little volume.

## BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Ancient and Modern History. [Catholic School Book.] Wm. H. Sadlier.

Blind, Mathilde. Tarantella. A Romance. Boston: Roberts Brothers. \$1.50.  
Clingman, T. L. The Tobacco Remedy. O. Judd Co. 25 cents.  
Ewing, Juliana H. Daddy Darwin's Dovecot. Illustrated. Boston: Roberts Brothers. 35 cents.  
Flatland. A Romance of Many Dimensions. By A. Square. Illustrated. Boston: Roberts Brothers. 75 cents.  
Gardner, Dorsey. A Condensed Dictionary of the English Language. Chiefly Derived from Webster's Unabridged. Supervised by Dr. Porter, President of Yale College. 1,500 Illustrations. Ivison, Blakeman, Taylor & Co.  
Gosse, E. The Works of Thomas Gray, in Prose and Verse. In 4 volumes. A. C. Armstrong & Co. \$6.  
Holcombe, W. H. Letters on Spiritual Subjects, in Answer to Inquiring Souls. Philadelphia: Porter & Coates. \$1.  
Jones, B. W. The Peanut Plant; Its Cultivation and Uses. Illustrated. O. Judd Co. 50 cents.  
Miller, Mrs. F. Fenwick. Harriet Martineau. [Famous Women Series.] Boston: Roberts Brothers.  
Sanders, Dr. D. Ergänzungs-Wörterbuch der deutschen Sprache. Berlin: Abenheim.

GOODHOLME'S DOMESTIC CYCLO-  
pædia for Housekeepers. \$2.50.  
HENRY HOLT & CO., New York.

## The Civil Service

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